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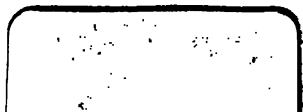
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OR,

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CURIOSITIES, BEAUTIES, AND VARIETIES,

Of Nature and Art,

IN EUROPE ;

COMPILED FROM EMINENT AUTHORITIES,

METHODICALLY ARRANGED,

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OBSERVATIONS, &c.

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BY CHARLES HULBERT,

Author of the African Traveller, Literary Beauties, &c.

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Order and majesty adorn the whole,
Beauty and life—————

Mrs. ROWE.

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1825.



PREFACE.

ALTHOUGH, the Task of selecting from so many authorities, and preparing articles for a work comprehending such a variety of subjects, has certainly been tedious and fatiguing, especially situated in the midst of business and perplexity of engagements as is generally my lot. The assistance and unwearied solicitude of numerous Friends and Subscribers have inspired me with so many grateful recollections, that I must ever reflect on the publication of this Work, as one of the most happy circumstances of my life.

To Mr. John Pearson, of Maraden Square, Manchester, and the other respectable Individuals recently, and at present, connected with the mercantile Establishment of which he is a partner, I am deeply indebted for very considerable patronage received through their influence and recommendation.

Of the kindness of my dear and ever-valued Relative and Friend, Mr. John Ferguson Hulbert, Surgeon, of Melksham, in Wiltshire, it will be impossible for me to speak in terms adequately expressive of the feelings of my heart; his valuable communications on Wiltshire Antiquities and Beauties are proofs, but not all the proofs, he has given of the interest he takes in the success of my Publication.

To Thomas Stringer, Esq. M. D. of Shrewsbury, for the loan of several interesting Manuscript Volumes of his Tours in various parts of the British Empire, I am under extensive obligation, not only for the assistance they afforded my labours, but for the information and amusement I received in the perusal of their interesting contents.

Of the various little pieces, signed C. A. H. interspersed through this and the other Volumes, standing in the relationship of Father to their youthful Author, I am precluded giving an opinion.

PREFACE.

To the learned and ingenious Mr. Brown, of Amesbury, I would most particularly acknowledge my high sense of the esteem and friendship he has recently manifested not only by the encouraging opinion entertained of my former Volumes, but by the agreeable and acceptable present of a Chart of Empires, with descriptions entirely executed by himself, and which were accompanied by a valuable letter.

To name the many acts of friendship I have received from distant and disinterested Individuals, and to include those of Friends by whom I am immediately surrounded, would swell this Preface to a little Volume; suffice it for me to say, they have all my best thanks, and I look forward to an opportunity* when I can more fully express those sentiments with which I am now so deeply impressed.

If I may be allowed to offer an opinion on this Volume, when compared with its predecessors, I am induced to say, that double the labour has been required to complete it, Difficulties adverted to in the Preface to the Volume on America, were even more formidable when actually met than when *anticipated* only. How far they have been overcome, and whether the *MUSEUM EUROPEUM* will commend itself to its readers, and afford them as much pleasure as the Volumes on the other Quarters of the Globe appear to have done, must be hereafter discovered. In the meantime I will indulge the hope that none will be greatly disappointed, and that I may "still look with pleasure on my Book† however defective, and deliver it to the World with the spirit of a Man that has endeavoured well."

CHARLES HULBERT.

Shrewsbury, Sept. 1st, 1825.

* *A future Publication* will probably include the diversified incidents of my past Life.

† See Preface to *Museum Asianum*.

H. D. Fisher

SELECT
ANTIQUITIES, CURIOSITIES,
BEAUTIES AND VARIETIES
OF
NATURE AND ART.

PART IV.—CHAP. I.

EUROPEAN ANTIQUITIES.
*Ancient Cities, Temples, Palaces, Castles,
Monuments, &c.*

—
GENERAL VIEW OF EUROPE.


EUROPE is the least extensive of the four grand divisions of the globe, while it is greatly the most improved and best known; it is situated between the 36th and 71st degrees of N. lat., having from south to north a breadth of about 2000 miles, and from east to west a length of nearly 3000. It contains, by calculation, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ millions of square miles, and is bounded by the sea in all directions except the east, where it adjoins Asia. In point of climate, no part of the globe is more favoured than Europe, the luxuriance of tropical latitudes being counterbalanced by disadvantages of which we happily have no idea. Europe lies almost wholly within the temperate zone: the countries under the 45th degree of latitude produce olives, oranges, and lemons; this is also the temperature of the mulberry;

vines are cultivated to the 50th degree of latitude. Corn of the common qualities to the 60th, and in peculiar situations, considerably farther. Maize is cultivated below lat. 48. But these definitions are subject to great modifications, the heat varying from other causes than the latitude. The cold is often very intense in the south of France, because it is exposed to the winds from the Alps; and the country adjacent to the ridge of Hæmus, though so far south as lat. 42. and 43., labours in winter under an intensity of cold unknown in our northern clime.

The principal islands of Europe are Britain and Ireland in the Atlantic; Sicily, Majorca, Minorca, Malta, Candia, Eubœa, in the Mediterranean; and Zealand, Funen, Laaland, Falster, Bornholm, Aland, in the Baltic. To these are to be added the extensive but uncultivated Iceland, and the still more dreary regions of Spitzbergen and Nova Zembla.

In regard to useful minerals, as iron, copper, and lead, Europe is abundantly provided; but there are scarcely any gold mines except in Hungary, and silver mines are few except in that country and in Germany. In point of animals, Europe, though possessing the domestic kinds in such perfection, is remarkable for containing a very small number peculiar to her own quarter of the globe.

Contemplating modern Europe with a view to the effects of political institutions, we find the benefit of good government exemplified in the republics of Italy; the Swiss cantons, and in Holland, but most conspicuously in Britain. Sweden has participated in them, but irregularly and by intervals: Denmark has been totally deprived of them, having laboured under feudal oppression until 1660, when one kind of despotism was exchanged for another, so that the advantages, whatever they may be that fall to the lot of the people, are the slow and indirect result of the progress of knowledge. Such was the state of France until the revolution; such is at present that of Austria, Italy, Spain, and Portugal. It is in Germany, and particularly in Saxony, Prussia, and Wirtemberg, that the popular mind is most strongly alive to the value of a representative government. In



other parts the people are extremely backward, and much remains to be done to put them in the enjoyment of the blessings which nature has placed within their reach.

The Netherlands were long pre-eminent in improvements over the other parts of modern Europe; for a century past this pre-eminence has been enjoyed by our own country; and the most superficial observer cannot visit the continent without being struck with its decided inferiority. France, the country which after Holland and Belgium approaches the nearest to our own, is still very backward; agriculture being rudely managed, the peasantry badly lodged, commerce conducted without combination, and the true principles of productive industry very imperfectly understood. Germany, though better fitted, at least in her northern division, for the adoption of sound views and industrious habits, has been unhappily kept back by her intestine wars, and her division into petty states. The south of Europe labours under the double disadvantage of a bad form of government, and of a system of religious bigotry. Wherever there are no representative assemblies, exertion is damped, and improvement retarded, even without the existence of positive tyranny. Impolitic regulations are allowed to remain; offices are conferred from favour, or regard to birth; invention is discouraged, and old usages blindly handed down from one generation to another. Again, the Catholic religion, without, having the intolerance of former days, interferes most materially, by its endless holidays, and its blind superstitions, with the legitimate course of industry. Hence the characteristic indolence of the Spaniards, Italians, and Portuguese; hence, in a great measure, that slow progress of the French which is so little correspondent to their individual quickness and activity. The streets, the houses, the furniture, of most continental nations, remain nearly as they were a century ago.

Manufactures are in an advanced state in a few towns on the continent, as Lyons, Rouen, Liege; but in most parts they are carried on without a proper division of labour, or sufficient benefit from machinery. It is still common, even in France and Germany, for the inhabi-

more than realized, now rushed upon our minds, deriving additional intenseness from the recollection of what we had seen. Our memory naturally recalled the feelings with which we had entered the Italian capital; and the gratification which we had received from the monuments of ancient and modern art, which we had there contemplated: and now, when we stood before that city, which was for ages the light of the world; where the unfettered energies of man had achieved the noblest deeds recorded in history; where genius, wisdom, and taste, had reached their highest perfection; and from which Rome herself was proud to borrow all her illumination and refinement;—admiration of the past glory of Athens, and commiseration of her fall,—the remembrance of what she had been, contrasted with what she now is,—mingled in one overpowering emotion, which expressed itself in the silence of tears.

The morn was gloomy—Athens was in shade, and, perhaps, the effect of solemn grandeur was better suited to the dejected state of that city of renown, than had there been a “blaze of living light.”

The city was too far distant to trace its features, and all we could perceive was the general form of the Acropolis, yet inviting the keen and curious eye to penetrate the dusky shades.*

As we descended the sacred way, and approached the sacred grove, various interesting objects appeared. The general forms of the temples of Minerva and Theseus arrested our admiring eyes, before the other remains of ancient art were visible. At last the columns of the temples and their beautiful proportions were distinctly seen. We crossed the classic Cephissus, (a poor and muddy stream,) and soon arrived in Athens.

* There is a considerable likeness between Athens and Stirling, as seen from the sacred way. Athens has her castle (Acropolis) seated high. Hymettus is like the Ochill Hills, Anchesmus and Brilessus answer to Craigforth and Abbey Craig. From every other point, it bears a striking resemblance to Edinburgh, especially as seen from the Braid and Ravelston Hills.

The country people whom we met were very sallow and unhealthy in appearance, nor were they quite so clear as those of Thebes or Livadia. The undaunted look of liberty no longer beams in the Athenian peasant's eye.

Our servant, who had gone before to procure accommodation, met us at the gate, and conducted us to Theodora Macri, the Consulina's, where we at present live. This lady is the widow of the consul, and has three lovely daughters; the eldest, celebrated for her beauty, and said to be the subject of those stanzas by Lord Byron:

"Maid of Athens, ere we part,
Give, Oh, give me back my heart!" &c.

At Orchomenus, where stood the Temple of the Graces, I was tempted to exclaim, "Whither have the Graces, fled?" Little did I expect to find them here. Yet here comes one of them with golden cups and coffee, and another with a book. The book is a register of names, some of which are far sounded by the voice of fame. Among them is Lord Byron's; connected with some lines which I shall send you:

"Fair Albion smiling sees her sons depart
To trace the birth and nursery of art,
Noble his object, glorious is his aim,
He comes to Athens, and he writes his name."

R. A.

The counterpoise by Lord Byron:

"This modest bard, like many a bard unknown,
Rhymes on our names, but wisely hides his own;
But yet, whoe'er he be, to say no worse,
His name would bring more credit than his verse."

These ladies, since the death of the consul, their father, depend on strangers lodging in their spare room and closet,—which we now occupy. But though so poor, their virtue shines as conspicuous as their beauty.

Not all the wealth of the east, or the complimentary lays even of the first of England's poets, could render them so truly worthy of love and admiration.

It is so natural to go from one beauty to another, that I am sure I cannot act more judiciously than to carry

you from the living Graces of Athens to the most beautiful of its antiquities.

Before conducting you to the Parthenon, however, let me direct your attention for a few moments to the Pnyx, where Demosthenes harangued the Athenians, and from which the greatest men of Greece have delivered their orations. It is formed in the solid rock, and will, as it should, exist as long as the world. Here too, we may perceive the stations from which Plato and Socrates are said to have addressed the people, and enforced doctrines calculated to enoble the soul of man. The Areopagus, where St. Paul preached to the Athenians, and where was held the supreme court of the most impartial judges that ever graced humanity, is still in existence, and will vanish only with the world. On the Lycabettus, the tombs of the departed great, excavated in the solid rock, are all open. There, also, we examined the ancient tanks or wells; the prodigious cuttings for foundations of buildings, the innumerable steps regularly formed, and leading to them; the ancient prisons, hewn in the mass of stone, and the very ground itself strewed with fragments of pottery, of ages gone! What man, looking at these things, could stand unmoved? In the market-place of Athens, our attention was directed to the remains of their ancient domestic utensils, marble chairs, and measures for corn, wine, and oil.

On the rock of the Acropolis we saw the dial that summoned them to the games in the Theatre of Bacchus. And in the museum of M. Fauvel, we beheld urns containing the ashes of the dead, their very hair; a jaw-bone with a coin fixed between the teeth! Lovely vases, pateræ, tazze, lancella, lumi eterni, and vessels for holding tears. On beholding such objects, it requires an effort to rouse the mind from that delightful reverie, which had carried it to converse with a state of society so long since passed away; and, for a time, the modern Greeks and Turks pass before the eyes as phantoms, almost unseen.

Signor Lusieri accompanied us to the Temple of Minerva, to which we ascended by a steep and winding path. About a third way up, we passed the celebrated

Cave of Pan, which is but an insignificant hollow in the rock, hardly allowing room for the poor god to have indulged in any enthusiastic gesture while amusing himself with his reeds. At the guard-house of the Acropolis, an old Turk sat smoking his pipe. He appeared to be the only soldier of the garrison, except the governor or *disdar*, to whom he led us, passing the ancient Propylea, of which I shall hereafter speak. The *Disdar* received us in his principal apartment, which, instead of smooth plaster, was finished with what is termed rough cast, and contained a clock, a trunk, and a sofa! In appearance, he was respectable, his white beard flowing upon a purple robe. Signor Lusieri was our interpreter, and arranged all matters for our drawing in the Acropolis. We were served with coffee, and a saucer of preserved fruit was handed round, with but one spoon for all. At parting, the amount of about forty shillings was put into his hand, for which sum we obtained permission to visit the Acropolis, whenever we might chuse. The money was counted by his eyes, and with the same organs he conveyed to us an intimation of his being highly pleased. In all this there appears a little ceremony, but let me tell you, the poor man's salary does not exceed £10 a year. When he was told that more English gentlemen were about to visit him, we perceived the beams of gladness in his aged countenance. All things being settled, we marched through weeds and broken marbles to the Parthenon,—the Temple of Minerva.

Who that has seen it, has not spoken of this building with raptures? "Did ever poet imagine aught so fair?" Instruction emanates from every part. It teaches the rules of nice proportion, of grace and beauty. With how much majesty does it rise among the heaps of surrounding ruins—itsself having severely suffered from the shock of earthquakes, and the still more desolating hand of man! With what can I compare this noble edifice, bereft as it now stands of the glorious sculptures with which it lately was adorned, unless the deity herself, bereft of her helmet and ægis, with her face of wisdom clouded with a frown of indignation at man's depravity.

The scene of desolation in the Acropolis is complete

the heaps of ruins of wretched houses, and various buildings, constructed part with clay and marble, the marble looking doleful through the mud. Vile nettles, higher than our knees, sting one when full of admiration, and not attending to them,—like the cursed government of the country, always ready to do mischief. On entering the temple, one is struck by the worn steps and curved or circular marks of the great doors of old, the pavement, too, that had been trodden by the luminaries of Greece! by Pericles, Phidias, Socrates, Plato, Xenophon, Demosthenes, Aristotle, &c. In testimony of my regard for you, I write this letter on the sacred marble.

——— “August Athena! where,
Where are thy men of might, thy grand in soul?
Gone, glimmering through the dream of things that were,
First in the race that led to glory's goal,
They won—and passed away.”——

The Parthenon, in its present corroded state, impresses the mind with the idea of its thousands of years. The purity of the marble has disappeared, but still the eye is charmed with the varied livery of time. The western front is rich in golden hues, and seems as if it had absorbed the evening beams!

Besides the magnificent Temple of Minerva, the Acropolis has to boast of the ruins of the contiguous Temples of Minerva Polias, the Erechtheum, and Pandroseum. The two former are considered the standard of the Ionic order. Every ornament is finished in the truest taste: the chisel, in short, can go no further.

The Temple of Minerva Polias is the only Grecian building that I have seen with windows; they are placed, three in number, between the columns, and their frames or jambs are almost touching them. At first they appeared a little out taste for want of space between them, and, on repeated consideration, I confess myself unable even to conjecture a reason for so displeasing an arrangement.

The lovely little Temple of Pandrosos, which was supported by six caryatids, or female figures, similar in form and attitude, is, as I have said, attached to the Temple of Minerva Polias. Only four of the caryatids

now remains, and these are greatly injured, and seem as if they mourned the loss of their companions. While studying this gem of architecture, a Turkish gentleman pointed to the rude support of the roof, which occupies the space of the last caryatid which was taken down, and with a mournful and significant expression of countenance, exclaimed, more than once, "mi Lor Elgin!" These words, from the mouth of a Turk, appeared to me infinitely more severe than all that has been said at home or here against the proceedings in the Acropolis.

From the portico of Minerva Polias, one of the most magnificent views of the whole ruins presents itself, comprehending the stately Doric of the Parthenon, contrasted with the light and elegant Ionic of the Eretheum, Minerva Polias itself, and the little gem Pandroseum! In colouring, the whole is perfect, especially in the evening light. The columns and entablature of the Parthenon appear in shade, yet rich with colour; the white and slender pillars of the Eretheum, partly relieved against the azure sky, and partly obscured by the shadows of the buildings, seem to embody all the harmonious hues of tenderness and delicacy. The portico of Minerva Polias stands in reflected light, and receives the soft illumination on its tones of orange, grey, and brown. The Pandroseum would hide itself in shade, but the streaming light seeks it out, and gilds the edges of its lovely forms. Even my Turkish friend (who pays me daily visits, while drawing in the Acropolis) conveyed his admiration of this touching scene, by expressive signs and smiles. He seems to have a pride and interest in the ruins, and shews me where architects have made their studies, especially the stations of our famous Cockrell, and the Calmuc employed by the Earl of Elgin.

The columns of the Propylea, the Parthenon and Temple of Theseus, have suffered much from lightning. The twistings and dislocations of some of them are very curious, the courses, or divisions of the pillars, have been considerably turned, so that the flutings of one part advance upon the other, while other portions of the same column remain uninjured by the shock. This is particularly remarkable in the Temple of Theseus; but,

with this exception, and a part of the roof being in a state of ruin, the building has not the appearance of great antiquity, although it is supposed to have been built before the age of Pericles.

In style, the Doric of the Temple of Theseus is not unlike the Parthenon; but, from its situation and size, which is not more than half the dimensions of the latter, it only excites the idea of simple beauty. The elevation of the Temple of Minerva opposing itself to the sky, favours its sublime appearance, independent of its exquisite proportions. The Temple of Theseus stands on a gentle elevation, but from whatever point we view it, the extensive and interesting scenery with which it is surrounded, comes in for a share of our interest and admiration; and perhaps this very circumstance, which reduces the temple to the station of a feature merely in the scene, has at the same time the effect of lessening that importance which it would possess, could it be seen without the interference of other objects.

Athens, with its Acropolis, is not more interesting to the antiquarian and classical scholar, from the associations connected with them, and the fine monuments of ancient art which they contain, than to the painter, as combining in the most charming varieties with the surrounding country. With the intention of ascertaining the most interesting points of view, I have made a circuit, beginning at the Temple of Theseus, and ascending by the Lycabettus, to the hill of the Museum. From thence I descended to the Ilissus, visited the Fountain of Callirhoe, the Temple of Jupiter Olympius, and continued my circuit by Mount Anchesmus, till I returned to the Temple of Theseus.

Ascending the Hill of the Museum, close upon the Monument of Philopappus, the view next in picturesque effect appears; but, being high, the Mounts Pentelicus and Anchesmus rise above the Acropolis, and reduce it a little lower in the scale of grandeur. But the exquisite aerial hues of the distant mountains, contrasted with the rich colouring of the varied buildings, produce the finest harmony for a picture.

While studying this affecting scene, and while my eye was on the road to Marathon, I was roused and accosted

by an Albanian soldier, who came to tell me that the Waiwode (the governor of the city) was approaching with all his wives. This was an intimation for me to leave the place; for no one must look upon a Turkish lady, even though she veils her face. You may be sure I did not tarry long; but desirous to know the result of this adventure, I placed myself in a situation where I could see the party at a little distance. First then a janizary appeared with a carpet and some wine; then followed the waiwode with a friend, both richly dressed in Turkish costume, with turbans white as snow. The Turks proceeded to examine the hill to see that all was clear; while the ladies, four in number, advanced at a distance from the lordly Turks, and from each other, with their faces as usual muffled to their noses. The soldier spread the carpet for the Turks, on which they squatted down, and smoked and drank their wine; while the ladies, in a tottering sort of gait, wandered separately to and fro: occasionally they would stoop to pick the flowers of the squill, but none of them approached their master. This stupid sickening scene continued for an hour. When the Turks arose, they proceeded on the path from Philopappus, which was close upon my station; but, as soon as I was seen by them, they made a sudden halt, and not wishing to disturb me a second time, they struck off to the right, and marched through fields of growing corn. The ladies veiled their eyes with gauze,

“ And thus through mists we see the sun,
Which else we durst not look upon.”

Athens being one of the superior towns in Greece, I expected to find some handsome shops, but nothing of the kind appears. The strangest mixtures and varieties,—caviare, pipes, books, cloth, blue, vitriol, grain, oil, honey, cheese, dried fish, &c. are all jumbled together. Every article of wearing-apparel seems clumsy and rudely made,—the iron and carpenter's work also, in particular; indicating that Athens is now as far behind, as in ancient times she outstripped the rest of the civilized world. The inside of the chapels are covered with contemptible daubings of the histories and adventures of the saints, in which they are represented performing

miracles, which it is hardly possible for human credulity to believe. The people are seen lounging in idle groups in every street. The fast of 142 days, united to the oppression of the government, seems to have enervated them, and rendered them quite unfit for any great achievement.

The market-day is kept on Sunday, when provisions are to be had in considerable variety, and very cheap.

Hotels, inns, or taverns, they have none; the khans certainly do not come under these denominations;—they have neither beds nor food, and are in general totally destitute of comfort. Strangers must look for lodgings in private houses.

At Athens there is some approach to liberality. In 1812, the Turks allowed Lord Elgin to put up a clock with a Latin inscription, purporting it to be a present from his Lordship to the people of Athens; but they had to build a tower for it, an expence at which they murmured considerably. A clock in a town, under subjection to Turkish government, was said to be a circumstance before unknown; but the Turks are very well satisfied with their having permitted its erection.

Of all the modes of worship I ever met with, that of the Dancing Dervishes seems the most extraordinary. Yet one would think there is reason in their apparent madness; certainly it prevents them from being so corpulent as the lazy lounging monks of Italy.

Many of the better Greeks in Athens wear the Frank dress, which, compared with their own or the Turkish costume, looks extremely mean.

The Turks are distinguished by their beards as well as costume. A wag of a Greek who had been long in Italy said, that he had little hope of the condition of his brethren being ameliorated, till the Turks would shave their beards!—supposing that the beard begets pomposity, consequence, and formality, and all the train of illiberal conduct incompatible with freedom. True it is, the Turks are not much given to suavity of manners, or those social virtues which bring man to man in happy intercourse with each other, suggesting the necessity of mutual rights; but the poor beard is not the cause.

SPARTA.

(Chateaubriand's Travels.)

"I determined," says M. Chateaubriand, "not to lie down, to employ the night in taking notes, to proceed the next day to the ruins of Sparta, and then continue my journey without returning to Misitra.

We proceeded for an hour along a road running direct south-west, when, at break of day, I perceived some ruins and a long wall of antique construction: my heart began to palpitate. The janissary turning towards me pointed with his whip to a whitish cottage on the right, and exclaimed, with a look of satisfaction, "Palæochori!" I made towards the principal ruin, which I perceived upon an eminence. On turning this eminence by the north-west for the purpose of ascending it, I was suddenly struck with the sight of a vast ruin of semicircular form, which I instantly recognised as an ancient theatre. I am not able to describe the confused feelings which overpowered me. The hill at the foot of which I stood, was consequently the hill of the citadel of Sparta, since the theatre was contiguous to the citadel; the ruin which I beheld upon that hill was of course the temple of Minerva Chalcicecos, since that temple was in the citadel, and the fragments of the long wall which I had passed lower down must have formed part of the quarter of the Cynosuri, since that quarter was to the north of the city. Sparta was then before me, and its theatre, to which my good fortune conducted me on my first arrival, gave me immediately the positions of all the quarters and edifices. I alighted, and ran all the way up the hill of the citadel.

Just as I reached the top, the sun was rising behind the hills of Menelaion. What a magnificent spectacle! but how melancholy! The solitary stream of the Eurotas running beneath the remains of the bridge Babyx; ruins on every side, and not a creature to be seen among them. I stood motionless, in a kind of stupor, at the contemplation of this scene. A mixture of admiration and grief, checked the current of my thoughts, and fixed me to the spot: profound silence reigned around me. Determined,

at least, to make echo speak in a spot where the human voice is no longer heard, I shouted with all my might: "Leonidas! Leonidas!" No ruin repeated this great name, and Sparta herself seemed to have forgotten her hero.

The whole site of Lacedæmon is uncultivated: the sun parches it in silence, and is incessantly consuming the marble of the tombs. When I beheld this desert, not a plant adorned the ruins, not a bird, not an insect, not a creature enlivened them, save millions of lizards, which crawled without noise up and down the sides of the scorching walls. A dozen half-wild horses were feeding here and there upon the withered grass; a shepherd was cultivating a few water-melons in a corner of the theatre; and at Magoula, which gives its dismal name to Lacedæmon, I observed a small grove of cypresses. But this Magoula, formerly a considerable Turkish village, has also perished in this scene of desolation: its buildings are overthrown, and the index of ruins is itself but a ruin.

CORINTH.

(The Same.)

There is a temple in ruin stands,
Fashion'd by long forgotten hands;
Two or three columns, and many a stone,
Marble and granite, with grass o'ergrown!
Out upon Time! it will leave no more
Of the things to come than the things before!
Out upon Time! who for ever will leave
But enough of the past for the future to grieve
O'er that which hath been, and o'er that which must
be:

What we have seen, our sons shall see!
Remnants of things that have pass'd away,
Fragments of stone, rear'd by creatures of clay!

LORD BYRON.

"CORINTH stands at the foot of mountains, in a plain which extends to the sea of Crissa, now the gulf of Lepanto, the only modern name in Greece that vies in beauty with the ancient appellations. In clear

weather, you discern beyond this sea, the top of Helicon and Parnassus; but from the town itself the Saronic sea is not visible. To obtain a view of it, you must ascend to Acro-Corinth, when you not only overlook that sea, but the eye embraces even the citadel of Athens and Cape Colonna. "It is," says Spon, "one of the most delicious views in the world." I can easily believe him, for even from the foot of Acro-Corinth, the prospect is enchanting. The houses of the villages, which are large, and kept in good repair, are scattered in groups over the plain, embosomed in mulberry, orange, and cypress trees. The vines, which constitute the riches of this district, give a fresh and fertile appearance to the country; they do not climb in festoons upon trees, as in Italy, nor are they kept low, as in the vicinity of Paris. Each root forms a detached verdant bush; round which the grapes hang, in autumn, like chrystals. The summits of Parnassus and Helicon, the Gulf of Lepanto, which resembles a magnificent canal, Mount Oneius covered with myrtles, form the horizon of the picture to the north and east; while the Acro-Corinthus, and the mountains of Argolis and Sieyon rise to the south and west. As to the monuments of Corinth, there is not one of them in existence. M. Foucherot has discovered among their ruins but two Corinthian capitals, the sole memorial of the order invented in that city.

A maritime people, a king who was a philosopher, and who became a tyrant, a Roman barbarian, who fancied that the statues of Praxiteles might be replaced like soldiers' helmets; all these recollections render Corinth not very interesting; but to make some amends, you have Jason, Medea, the fountain of Pirene, Pegasus, the Isthmian games instituted by Theseus and sung by Pindar; that is to say, fable and poetry, as usual.

The traveller surveys the site of this celebrated city; he discovers not a vestige of the altars of paganism, but he perceives some christian chapels rising from among the cottages of the Greeks. The apostle might still, from his celestial abode, give the salutation of peace to his children, and address them in the words, "Paul to the church of God, which is at Corinth."

observe, in general, that Rome at present exhibits a strange mixture of magnificent and interesting, common and beggarly objects; the former consists of palaces, churches, fountains, and, above all, the remains of antiquity. The latter comprehends all the rest of the city. The church of St. Peter's, in the opinion of many, surpasses, in size and magnificence, the finest monuments of ancient architecture. The Grecian and Roman temples were more distinguished for the elegance of their form, than their magnitude. The Pantheon, which was erected to all the gods, is the most entire antique temple in Rome. It is said, that Michael Angelo, to confirm the triumph of modern over ancient architecture, made the dome of St. Peter's of the same diameter with the Pantheon; raising the immense fabric upon four pillars; whereas the whole circle of the rotunda rests upon the ground. This great artist, perhaps, was delighted with the idea of being thought as superior to the ancient architects, as he was conscious of being inferior to some of the sculptors of antiquity.

All who have seen St. Paul's in London may, by an enlargement of its dimensions, form some idea of the external appearance of St. Peter's. But the resemblance fails entirely on comparing them within; St. Peter's being lined, in many parts, with the most precious and beautiful marble, adorned with valuable pictures, and all the powers of sculpture."

Whilst Dr. Moore was at Rome, he witnessed the grand procession of the Possesso, which he thus describes. "This is a ceremony performed by every Pope; as soon as conveniency will permit, after the Conclave has declared in his favour. It is equivalent to the coronation in England, or consecration at Rheims. On this occasion, the Pope, goes to the Basilica of St. John Lateran, and, as the phrase is, takes possession of it. This church, they tell you, is the most ancient of all the churches in Rome, and the mother of all the churches in Christendom. When he has got possession of this, therefore, he *must* be the real head of the Christian church, and Christ's vicegerent upon earth. From St. John Lateran's, he proceeds to the Capitol, and receives the keys of that fortress; after which, it is

equally clear, that as an earthly prince, he ought, like the ancient possessors of the Capitol, to have a supremacy over all kings.

The Prince Guistiniani procured a place for us, at the Senator's house in the Capitol, from whence we might see the procession to the greatest advantage. On arriving, we were surprised to find the main body of the Palace, as well as the Palazzo de Conservatori, and the Museum, which form the two wings, all hung with crimson silk, laced with gold. The bases and capitals of the pillars and pilasters, where the silk could not be accurately applied, were gilt. Only imagine, what a figure the Farnesian Hercules would make, dressed in a silk suit, like a French *petit-maitre*. To cover the noble simplicity of Michael Angelo's architecture with such frippery by way of ornament, is, in my mind, a piece of refinement equally laudable.

Throwing an eye upon the Pantheon, and comparing it with the Campidoglio in its present dress, the beauty and justness of the following lines seemed more striking than ever.

Mark, how the dread Pantheon stands,
Amid the domes of modern hands,
Amid the toys of idle state,
How simply, how severely great!

We were led to a balcony, where a number of ladies of the first distinction in Rome were assembled.—There were no men excepting a very few strangers; most part of the Roman noblemen have some function in the procession. The instant of his Holiness's departure from the Vatican, was announced by a discharge of cannon from the castle of St. Angelo; on the top of which the standard of the church had been flying ever since morning. We had a full view of the cavalcade, on its return from the church, as it ascended to the Capitol. The officers of the Pope's horse guards were dressed in a style equally rich and becoming. The Roman Barons, who were on horseback, without boots, and in full dress; each of them was preceded by four pages, their hair hanging in regular ringlets to the middle of their backs: they were followed by a number of servants in rich liveries. Bishops and other ecclesiastics succeeded the Barons;

and then came the Cardinals on horseback in their purple robes, which covered every part of the horses except the head. Last of all comes the Pope himself, mounted on a milk white mule, distributing blessings with an unsparing hand among the multitude, who followed him with acclamations of *Viva il Santo Padre!** and prostrating themselves on the ground before his mule, *Benedizione, Santo Padre.*†

At the entrance of the Capitol he was met by the Senator of Rome, who, falling upon his knees, delivered the keys into the hands of his Holiness, who pronounced a blessing over him, and restored him the keys.

This procession, I am told, is one of the most showy and magnificent which takes place on any occasion in this city; where there are certainly more solemn exhibitions of the same kind than in any other country; yet, on the whole, I own it did not afford me much satisfaction; nor could all their pomp and finery prevent an uneasy recollection, not unmixed with sentiments of indignation, from obtruding on my mind. To feel unmixed admiration in beholding the Pope and his Cardinals marching in triumph to the Capitol, one must forget those who walked in triumph formerly to the same place; forget entirely that such men as Camillus, Scipio, Paulus Æmilius, and Pompey, ever existed; they must forget Cato, whose campaign in Africa was so much admired by Lucan, that he declares, he would rather have had the glory of that single campaign, than Pompey's three triumphs, and all the honour he obtained by finishing the Jugurthan war.

We must forget Caius Cassius, Marcus Brutus, and all the great and virtuous men of ancient Rome, whom we have admired from our childhood, and of whose great qualities our admiration increases with our experience and knowledge of the present race of mankind. To be in the Capitol, and not think and speak of the worthies of the ancient Republic, is almost impossible.

* Long live the Holy Father!

† Your blessing Holy Father.

Allow me now to mention some of the best specimens of ancient architecture in Rome. I shall begin with the Pantheon, which, though not the largest of the Roman temples, is the most perfect which now remains. The Temple of Jupiter Capitolinus, and the Temple of Peace, if we may trust to the accounts we have of the first, and to the ruins of the second, in the Campo Vaccino, were both much larger than the Pantheon. In spite of the depredations which this last has sustained from Goths, Vandals, and Popes, it still remains a beauteous monument of Roman taste. The pavillion of the great altar, which stands under the cupola in St. Peter's, and the four wreathed pillars of Corinthian brass which support it, were formed out of the spoils of the Pantheon, which, after all, and with the weight of eight hundred years upon its head, has still a probability of outliving its proud rapacious rival. From the round form of this temple, it has obtained the name of *Rotunda*. Its height is a hundred and fifty feet, and its diameter nearly the same. Within, it is divided into eight parts; the gate at which you enter forming one; the other seven compartments, if they may be so called, are each of them distinguished by two fluted Corinthian pillars, and as many pilasters of *Giallo Antico*. The capitols and bases are of white marble: these support a circular entablature. The wall is perpendicular for half the height of the temple; it then slopes forward as it ascends, the circumference gradually diminishing, till it terminates in an opening of about twenty-five feet diameter. There are no windows; the central opening in the vault admitting a sufficiency of light, has a much finer effect than windows could have had. No great inconveniency can happen from this opening. The conical form of the temple prevents the rain from falling near the walls where the altars now are, and where the statues of the gods were formerly placed. The rain which falls in the middle immediately drills through holes which perforate a large piece of porphyry that forms the centre of the pavement, the whole of which consists of various pieces of marble, agate, and other materials, which have been picked up from the ruins, and now compose a singular kind of Mosaic work.

The portico was added by Marcus Agrippa, the son-in-law of Augustus. It is supported by sixteen pillars of the granite, five feet in diameter, and of a single piece each. Upon the frieze, in the front, is the following inscription in large capitals :

M. AGRIPPA L. F. CONSUL TERTIUM FECIT.*

Some are of opinion, that the Pantheon is much more ancient than the Augustan age, and that the portico, which is the only part that antiquarians admit to be the work of Agrippa, though beautiful in itself, does not correspond with the simplicity of the temple.

As the Pantheon is the most entire, the Amphitheatre of Vespasian is the most stupendous, monument of antiquity in Rome. It was finished by his son Titus, and obtained the name of Colosseum, afterwards corrupted into Coliseum, from a colossal statue of Apollo which was placed before it. This vast structure was built of Tiburtine stone, which is remarkably durable. If the public buildings of the ancient Romans had met with no more inveterate enemy than time, we might, at this day, contemplate the greater number in all their original perfection ; they were formed for the admiration of much remoter ages than the present. This Amphitheatre in particular might have stood entire for two thousand years to come : For what are the slow corrosions of time, in comparison of the rapid destruction from the fury of Barbarians, the zeal of Bigots, and the avarice of Popes and Cardinals ? The first depredation made on this stupendous building, was by the inhabitants of Rome themselves, at that time greater Goths than their conquerors. We are told, they applied to Theodoric, whose court was then at Ravenna, for liberty to take the stones of this Amphitheatre for some public work they were carrying on. The marble cornices, the friezes, and other ornaments of this building, have been carried away, at various times, to adorn palaces ; and

* Founded by Marcus Agrippa, the son of Lucius, during his third consulship.

the stones have been taken to build churches, and sometimes to repair the walls of Rome, the most useless work of all. For of what importance are walls to a city, without a garrison, and whose most powerful artillery affects not the bodies, but only the minds, of men? About one half of the external circuit still remains, from which, and the ruins of the other parts, a pretty exact idea may be formed of the original structure. By a computation made by Mr. Byres, it could contain eighty-five thousand spectators, making a convenient allowance for each. Fourteen chapels are now erected within side, representing the stages of our Saviour's passion. This expedient of consecrating them into Christian chapels and churches, has saved some of the finest remains of Hea-then magnificence from utter destruction.

Our admiration of the Romans is tempered with horror, when we reflect on the use formerly made of this immense building, and the dreadful scenes which were acted on the Arena; where not only criminals condemned to death, but also prisoners taken in war, were obliged to butcher each other, for the entertainment of an inhuman populace. The combats of gladiators were at first used in Rome at funerals only, where prisoners were obliged to assume that profession, and fight before the tombs of deceased Generals or Magistrates, in imitation of the barbarous custom of the Greeks, of sacrificing captives at the tombs of their heroes.

There were many Amphitheatres at Rome, in other towns in Italy, and in many provinces of the empire; but this of Vespasian was the largest that was ever built. That at Verona is the next in size in Italy, and the remains of the Amphitheatre at Nismes, in the south of France, prove, that it was the most magnificent structure of this kind in any of the Roman provinces. The Romans were excessively fond of these exhibitions.

We are told, that the gladiators were instructed by the Lanistæ, not only in the art of fighting, but also in the most graceful manner of dying; and when those wretched men felt themselves mortally wounded, they assumed such attitudes as they knew pleased the beholders; and they seemed to receive pleasure themselves from the applause bestowed upon them in their last moments.

When a gladiator was thrown by his antagonist to the ground, and directly laid down his arms, it was a sign that he could resist no longer, and declared himself vanquished; but still his life depended on the spectators. If they were pleased with his performance, or in a merciful disposition, they held up their hands, with the thumb folded down, and the life of the man was spared; but if they were in the humour to see him die, they held up the hand clenched, with the thumb only erect. As soon as the prostrate victim beheld that fatal signal, he knew all hopes of life were vain, and immediately presented his breast to the sword of his adversary, who, whatever his own inclinations might be, was obliged to put him to death instantly.

While we express horror and indignation at the fondness which the Romans displayed for the bloody combats of the Amphitheatre, let us reflect, whether this proceeded from any peculiar cruelty of disposition inherent in that people, or belongs to mankind in general; let us reflect, whether it is probable, that the people of any other nation would not be gradually led, by the same degrees, to an equal passion for such horrid entertainments. Let us consider, whether there is reason to suspect that those who arm cocks with steel, and take pleasure in beholding the spirited little animals put one another to death, would take the same, or superior delight, in obliging men to slaughter each other if they had the power. And what restrains them? Is there no reason to believe, that the influence of a purer religion, and brighter example, than were known to the Heathen world, prevents mankind from those enormities *now*, which were permitted and countenanced formerly? As soon as the benevolent precepts of Christianity were received by the Romans as the laws of the Deity, the prisoners and slaves were treated with humanity, and the bloody exhibitions in the Amphitheatres were abolished.

I have hitherto said nothing of the Capitol, and the Forum Romanum, which is by far the most interesting scene of antiquities in Rome. The objects worthy of attention are so numerous, and appear so confused, that it was a considerable time before I could form a toler-

ably distinct idea of their situation with respect to each other, though I have paid many more visits to this than any other spot since I have been in this city. Before we entered a church or palace, we ran thither with as much impatience as if the Capitol had been in danger of falling before our arrival. The approach to the modern Campidoglio is very noble, and worthy of the genius of Michael Angelo. The building itself is also the work of that great artist; it is raised on part of the ruins of the ancient Capitol, and fronts St. Peter's church, with its back to the Forum and old Rome.—Ascending this celebrated hill, the heart beats quick, and the mind warms with a thousand interesting ideas. You are carried back, at once, to the famous robber who first founded it. Without thinking of the waste of time which must have effaced what you are looking for, you cast about your eyes in search of the path by which the Gauls climbed up, and where they were opposed and overthrown by Manlius. You withdraw your eyes, with disdain, from every modern object, and are even displeased with the elegant structure you see before you, and contemplate, with more respect, the ruins on which it is founded; because they are more truly Roman.

The two Sphynxes of basalte, at the bottom of the ascent, though excellent specimens of Egyptian sculpture, engage little of your attention. Warm with the glory of Rome, you cannot bestow a thought on the hieroglyphics of Egypt. At sight of the trophies erected in honour of C. Marius, all those bloody scenes acted by the fury of party and demon of revenge, during the most calamitous period of the republic, rush upon the memory; and you regret that Time, who has spared the monuments of this fierce soldier, has destroyed the numerous trophies raised to the Fabii, the Scipios, and other heroes, distinguished for the virtues of humanity, as well as the talents of Generals. You are struck with the colossal* statues of Castor and Pollux, and, in the

* The Colossus of the Sun at Rhodes, made in twelve years, by Charles of Lindus, was 105 feet in height, and cost 300 talents, or £58,125. The Mercury of Zeno-

beat of enthusiasm, confounding the fictions of poets with historical truth, your heart applauds their fraternal affection, and thanks them for the timely assistance they afforded the Romans in a battle with the Volsci.

From them you move forward, and your admiration is fixed by the animated equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius, which naturally brings to your memory the happy period, when the Roman empire was governed by a Prince, who, during a long reign, made the good of his subjects the chief object of his government. You proceed to the upper end of the area; your eye is caught by a majestic female figure, in a sitting attitude you are told it is a Roma Triumphans; you view her with all the warmth of fond enthusiasm.

In the two wings of the modern palace, called the Campidoglio, the Conservators of the city have apartments; their office is analogous to that of the ancient *Ædiles*. The beautiful approach to this palace, and the ornaments which decorate the area before it; can not detain you long from the back view to which the ancient Capitol fronted. Here you behold the Forum Romanum, now exhibiting a melancholy but interesting view of the devastation wrought by the united force of time, avarice, and bigotry. The first objects which meet your eye, on looking from this side of the hill are three fine pillars, two-thirds of them buried in the ruins of the old Capitol. They are said to be the remains of the temple of Jupiter Tonans, built by Augustus, in gratitude for having narrowly escaped death from a stroke of lightning. Near these are the remains of Jupiter Stator, consisting of three very elegant small Corinthian pillars, with their entablature; the Temple of Concord, where Cicero assembled the Senate, a

dorus, set up in the city of Auvergne, which, Pliny says, exceeded all the statues of his time in magnitude and the making of which occupied the artist for ten years, cost only 400 sesteria, or £3229, 3s. 4d.—The whole height of Lord Hill's Column, at Shrewsbury including the Statue, is 133 feet. The expence of erection upwards of £6000.—Ep.

the discovery of Catiline's conspiracy ; the Temple of Romulus and Remus, and that of Antoninus and Faustina, just by it, both converted into modern churches ; the ruins of the magnificent Temple of Peace, built immediately after the taking of Jerusalem, the Roman empire being then in profound peace.

Of many triumphal arches which stood formerly in Rome, there are only three now remaining, all of them near the Capitol, and forming entries to the Forum ; those of Titus, Septimius Severus, and Constantine.

There are many other interesting ruins in and about the Campo Vaccino, besides those I have mentioned ; but of some structures which we know formerly stood here, no vestige is now to be seen. This is the case with the arch which was erected in honour of the Fabian Family. There is the strongest reason to believe that the ancient Forum was entirely surrounded with temples, basilicæ, and public buildings of various kinds, and adorned with porticoes and colonnades.

The Tarpeian Rock is a continuation of that on which the Capitol is built ; I went to that part from which criminals condemned to death were thrown. Mr. Byres has measured the height ; it is exactly fifty-eight feet perpendicular ; and he thinks the ground at the bottom, from evident marks, is twenty feet higher than it was originally ; so that, before this accumulation of rubbish, the precipice must have been about eighty feet perpendicular. The Campus Martius had its name from a small temple built in it, at a very early period, and dedicated to Mars ; or it might have this name from the military exercises performed there.

The dead bodies of the most illustrious citizens were also burnt in this field, which was adorned gradually by statues and trophies, erected to the memory of distinguished men. But every feature of its ancient appearance is now hid by the streets and buildings of modern Rome.

The inhabitants of Rome ought to show more solicitude for preserving the antiquities than they do ; and they might, without inconvenience, find some place for a Cow Market of less importance than the ancient Forum. The accounts we have of the Forums of Nerva,

and that of Trajan, give the highest idea of their grandeur and elegance ; three Corinthian pillars, with their entablature, are all that remain of the former ; of the latter, the noble column placed in the middle, still preserves all its original beauty. It consists of twenty-three circular pieces of white marble, horizontally placed one above the other ; it is about twelve feet diameter at the bottom, and ten at the top. The plinth of the base, is a piece of marble twenty-one feet square. A staircase consisting of one hundred and eighty-three steps, and sufficiently wide to admit a man to ascend, is cut out of the solid marble, leaving a small pillar in the middle, round which the stair winds from the bottom to the top. I observed a piece broken, as I went up, which shewed, that those large masses of marble have been exquisitely polished on the flat sides, where they are in contact with each other, that the adhesion and strength of the pillar might be the greater. The stairs are lighted by forty-one windows, exceedingly narrow on the outside, that they might not interrupt the connection of the basso relievos, but which gradually widen within, and by that means give sufficient light. The base of the column is ornamented with basso relievos, representing trophies of Dacian armour. The figures towards the top, are too far removed from the eye to be seen perfectly. Exclusive of the statue, this beautiful pillar is a hundred and twenty feet high. The ashes of Trajan were deposited in an urn at the bottom, and his statue at the top. Pope Sixtus the Fifth, in the room of the Emperor's, has placed a statue of St. Peter upon this column.

Besides churches, there are about thirty palaces in Rome, as full of pictures as the walls can bear. The Borghese Palace alone is said to contain above sixteen hundred, all original. There are also ten or twelve villas in the neighbourhood of this city, which are usually visited by strangers. You may judge from this, what a task they undertake, who resolve to go through the whole ; and what kind of an idea they are likely to carry away, who perform this task during a stay of a few months.

CATACOMBS AT ROME.

(*Dupaty's Letters on Italy.*)

I WENT yesterday to see the catacombs of the convent of St. Sebastian. The Jacobine who served me as a guide, appeared to be a man of understanding, and much warmth of imagination.

After entering the first street of this immense subterraneous cavity, you see, said my conductor, on each side in this rock, the place where so many bodies lay piled one upon another: it is said that upwards of one hundred thousand of them were found here; these were all the bodies of martyrs.

There, are some instruments of punishment, altars, and a statue of St. Sebastian in marble, by Bernini: and here the earth has fallen in.

Such accidents happen, added he, from time to time; it is necessary therefore to advance with great precaution, in these dangerous caverns: unfortunate strangers have more than once entered them, and never returned.

About forty years ago, a young man and his wife had the curiosity to penetrate into them.* They entered, preceded by a guide carrying a torch, when on a sudden the rock fell in behind them.

Night had now come on. The guide who was missing, was sought for through the whole convent, and at length, in passing before the catacombs, O, horror! it was observed that the gate was open.

The alarm was general, they run for lights, they descended, search every where, and, at length, arrive where the earth had newly fallen in.

They call, and are answered by cries.—But how might it be possible to move and raise this massive rock and effect an opening?

* M. Roberts, a French Artist, was lost for a considerable time in them: his fate is affectingly described by De Lille.—ED.

NAPLES.

(Eustace's Tour and Sass's Journey.)

"NAPLES," says Mr. Eustace, "occupies the site of both Palæopolis and Neapolis in ancient times, though it inherits the name of the latter. It is of Grecian origin and is first mentioned by Livy as having, in conjunction with Palæopolis, joined the Samnites, in a confederacy against the Romans.

Naples, seated in the bosom of a capacious haven, spreads her greatness and her population along its shore, and covers its shelving coasts and bordering mountains with her villas, her gardens, and her retreats. Containing within her own walls more than four hundred thousand inhabitants, she sees one hundred thousand more enliven her suburbs, that stretch in a magnificent and most extensive sweep from Portici to the promontory of Misenum, and fill a spacious line of sixteen miles along the shore with life and activity. In size and number of inhabitants, she ranks as the third city in Europe; and, from her situation and superb show, may justly be considered as the queen of the Mediterranean. The internal appearance of Naples is in general pleasing: the edifices are lofty and solid; the streets as wide as in any continental city; the Strada Toledo is a mile in length, and, with the quay, which is very extensive and well built, forms the grand and distinguishing features of the city. In fact, the Chiaia, with the royal garden, Mergillina and St. Lucia, which spreads along the coast for so considerable a space, and present such an immense line of lofty edifices, are sufficient to give an appearance of grandeur to any city. As for architectural magnificence, Naples possesses a very small share; as the prevailing taste, if a series of absurd fashions deserve that appellation, has always been bad. Moresco, Spanish, and bad Roman, corrupted and intermingled together, destroy all appearance of unity and symmetry, and form a monstrous jumble of discordance. The magnificence, therefore, of the churches and palaces consist, first, in their magnitude, and then in paintings, marbles, and decorations in general, which, however, are seldom disposed with taste or

judgment, and, when best disposed, are scattered around with a profusion that destroys the effect.

To describe the public edifices of Naples would be to compose a guide. I shall, therefore, content myself with a few observations on some remarkable objects in them, or connected with them. Several churches are supposed to occupy the sites of ancient temples, the names and memory of which have been preserved by this circumstance. Thus the cathedral is said to stand on the substructions of a temple of Apollo; that of the Santi Apostoli rises on the ruins of a temple of Mercury. St. Maria Maggiore was originally a temple of Diana, erected over the temple of Antinous, &c. Of these churches, some are adorned with the pillars and marbles of the temples to which they have succeeded. Thus the cathedral is supported by more than a hundred columns of granite, which belonged to the edifice over which it is erected, as did the forty or more pillars that decorated the treasury, or rather the chapel of Januarius.

The Santi Apostoli is in its origin, perhaps, the most ancient church in Naples, and was, if we may credit tradition, erected by Constantine upon the ruins of a temple of Mercury; it has, however, been rebuilt partially more than once, and finally with great magnificence. The church of St. Paul occupies the site of a temple of Castor and Pollux; the front of this temple, consisting of eight Corinthian pillars, was destroyed by the earthquake of 1688.

The chapel of St. John the Evangelist was erected by the celebrated Pontanus, and is remarkable for the Latin sentences, moral and political, engraved on marble near its entrance and on its front. They are misplaced, and ostentatious though solid, and in language not inelegant. The epitaph, composed by Pontanus himself, has the merit of originality; but his best and most durable epitaph is the tribute paid to him by San-nazarius.

In the cloister of the canons, regularly attached to the parochial church of St. Agnello, stands the tomb of the poet Marini, ornamented with a bronze statue; the whole erected at the request of the celebrated Manso,

the friend of Tasso and of Milton, who left by will a sum of money to defray the expense.

The sepulchral chapel of the family San Severo deserves to be mentioned, not so much on account of its architecture, or even decorations, or the order with which the monuments are disposed, (though all these are worthy of notice,) as on account of three particular statues, two of which display the patient skill, the third the genius, of the sculptor. The first is a representation of Modesty, covered from head to foot with a veil; that through its texture the spectator fancies he can trace not only the general outlines of the figure, but the very features and expression of the countenance. Another represents our Saviour extended in the sepulchre; it is covered like the preceding with a veil, and, like it, exhibits the form which it infolds, with all its features, majestic and almost divine even in death. The attention of strangers is generally directed to another statue or group in the same chapel, representing a man entangled in a net, and endeavouring, with the aid of a genius, to disengage himself.

In one of the little chapels there is a picture of St. Michael trampling on Satan. It is observable that the latter is represented with the face of a beautiful female, and the reason given is whimsical enough. The countenance of the devil is a picture of a very beautiful lady, who unfortunately fell in love with Diomedes Caraffa, bishop of Ariano, who, to shew his abhorrence of her sacrilegious passion, when fitting up this chapel for his mausoleum, ordered the painter to degrade her into the infernal spirit, and place her prostrate under the spear of the archangel.

But if the churches do no credit to the taste of the Neapolitans, the hospitals reflect much honour on their charity. These establishments are very numerous, and adapted to every species of distress to which man is subject in mind or body. Many of them are richly endowed and all clean, well attended, and well regulated.

The two principal hospitals are that called Degli Incurabili, which, notwithstanding its title, is open to sick persons of all descriptions, and constantly relieves

more than eighteen hundred ; and that of *Della Sta. Annunziata*, which is immensely rich, and destined to receive foundlings, penitent females, &c., and is said sometimes to harbour two thousand.

Mr Eustace, continuing to speak of the Neapolitan hospitals, observes, " when a patient has recovered his health and strength, and is about to return to his usual occupations, he receives from the establishment a sum of money sufficient to compensate for the loss of time and labour unavoidable during his illness ; a most benevolent custom, and highly worthy of imitation. A long illness, or dangerous accident, deprives a poor labourer or artisan so long of his ordinary wages, and throws him so far back in his little economy, that he cannot, without great difficulty, recover himself, and regain a state of comfort. From this inconvenience, the small sum granted by the charity of the hospital relieves him, and restores him to his trade, his health, and spirits.

The *Conservatorii* are schools opened for poor children of both sexes, where they are educated, fed, and taught some handicraft or other. Some are in the nature of work-houses, and employ a prodigious number of indigent persons of both sexes, in separate building, while others are devoted entirely to children, educated principally for music. These latter institutions have produced most of the great performers and masters of the art who have figured in the churches or on the stages of the different capitals of Europe for the last hundred years."

"NAPLES is a fine city," says Mr. SASS, " but when I see people immersed in so much dirt and filth, and who have, altogether, so wretched an appearance, it is difficult to reconcile it with the splendid palaces around.

The rattling of coaches, the bawling of coachmen, the various cries of the various trades, of basket-makers and knife-grinders, of sellers of lemonade, fruit, brooms, &c. conveyed in the highest key of the voice, assail the traveller from all quarters, and stun his ears. It is all confusion ; and there is equal danger of being run over, jostled in a crowd, or tumbled into a stall of fruit, fish,

but these reports of individuals are generally erroneous, the main fault being in the want of an efficient government.

After suffering the various vicissitudes common to all cities of Italy in their intestine broils, Naples became subject to the king of Spain. At last, Napoleon the Great, late Emperor of France and king of Italy, conquered the kingdom of Naples, and gave it to his brother Joseph: Joachim Murat, a lover of science and the fine arts, succeeded him. He is described as having governed the people with wisdom, who, in return, loved him extremely. He was occupied incessantly in rendering his subjects more happy, and he is never spoken of but with regret. Naples is indebted to him for many improvements.

SYRACUSE.

SICILY.

(Brydone's Tour in Sicily and Malta.)

“**A** LAS!” exclaims Mr. Brydone, “how are the mighty fallen! Syracuse, that vied with Rome itself, is now reduced to a heap of rubbish; for what remains of it deserves not the name of a city. We rowed round the greatest part of its walls without seeing a human creature; those very walls that were the terror of the Roman arms; from whence Archimedes battered their fleets, and with his engines lifted their vessels out of the sea, and dashed them against the rocks. We found the interior part of the city agreed but too well with its external appearance. There was not an inn to be found; and after visiting all the monasteries and religious fraternities in search of beds, we found the whole of them so wretchedly mean and dirty, that we preferred at last to sleep on straw; but even that we could not have clean, but were eaten up with vermin of every kind.

We had letters for the Count Gaetano, who made an apology that he could not lodge us, but in other respects showed us many civilities; particularly in giving us the use of his carriage, in explaining the ruins, in pointing out every thing that was worthy of our at-

tion ; and likewise in giving us letters of recommendation for Malta. He is a gentleman of good sense, and has written several treatises on the antiquities of Sicily.

Of the four cities that composed the ancient Syracuse, there remains only Ortigia, by much the smallest, situated in the island of that name. It is about two miles round, and supposed to contain about fourteen thousand inhabitants. The ruins of the other three, Tycha, Achradina, and Neapoli, are computed at twenty-two miles in circumference, but almost the whole of this space is now converted into rich vineyards, orchards, and corn-fields ; the walls of these are indeed every where built with broken marbles full of engravings and inscriptions, but most of them defaced and spoiled. The principal remains of antiquity are a theatre and amphitheatre ; many sepulchres, the Latomie, the Catacombs, and the famous ear of Dionysius, which it was impossible to destroy.—The Latomie now makes a noble subterraneous garden, and is indeed one of the most beautiful and romantic spots I ever beheld. Most of it is about one hundred feet below the level of the earth, and of an incredible extent. The whole is hewn out of a rock as hard as marble, composed of a concretion of shells, gravel, and other marine bodies. The bottom of this immense quarry, from whence probably the greatest part of Syracuse was built, is now covered with an exceeding rich soil ; and as no wind from any point of the compass can touch it, it is filled with a great variety of the finest shrubs and fruit-trees, which bear with vast luxuriance, and are never blasted. The oranges, citrons, bergamots, pomegranates, figs, &c. are all of a remarkable size and fine quality. Some of these trees, but more particularly the olives, grow out of the hard rock : where there is no visible soil ; and exhibit a very uncommon and pleasing appearance.

There is a variety of wild and romantic scenes in this curious garden ; in the midst of which we were surprised by the appearance of a figure under one of the caverns, that added greatly to the dignity and solemnity of the place.—It was that of an aged man, with a long flowing white beard that reached down to his mid-

dle. His old wrinkled face and scanty grey locks pronounced him a member of some former age as well as of this. His hands, which were shook by the palsy, held a sort of pilgrim's staff; and about his neck there was a string of large beads with a crucifix hanging to its end.—Had it not been for these marks of his later existence, I don't know but I should have asked him, whether in his youth, he had not been acquainted with Theocritus and Archimedes, and if he did not remember the reign of Dionysius the tyrant. But he saved us the trouble, by telling us he was the hermit of the place, and belonged to a convent of Capuchins on the rock above; that he had now bid adieu to the upper world, and was determined to spend the rest of his life in this solitude, in prayer for the wretched mortals that inhabit it.

This figure, together with the scene in which it appears, are indeed admirably well adapted, and reflect a mutual dignity upon each other. We left some money upon the rock: for the Capuchins, who are the greatest beggars on earth, never touch money, but save their too tender consciences, and preserve their vows unbroken, by the simple device of lifting it with a pair of pincers, and carrying it to market in their sack or cowl.

The ear of Dionysius is no less a monument of the ingenuity and magnificence, than of the cruelty, of that tyrant. It is a huge cavern cut out of the hard rock, in the form of the human ear. The perpendicular height of it is about eighty feet, and the length of this enormous ear is not less than two hundred and fifty. The cavern was said to be so contrived, that every sound made in it, was collected and united into one point, as as into a focus; this was called the Tympanum; and exactly opposite to it the tyrant has made a small hole, which communicated with a little apartment where he used to conceal himself. He applied his own ear to this hole, and is said to have heard distinctly every word that was spoken in the cavern below. This apartment was no sooner finished, and a proof of it made, than he put to death all the workmen that had been employed in it. He then confined all that he suspected were his enemies; and, by overhearing their conver-

sation, judged of their guilt, and condemned and acquitted accordingly.

As this chamber of Dionysius is very high in the rock, and now totally inaccessible, we had it not in our power to make proof of this curious experiment, which our guides told us had been done some years ago by the captain of an English ship.

The echo in the ear is prodigious, much superior to any other cavern I have seen. The holes in the rock, to which the prisoners were chained, still remain, and even the lead and iron in several of them. We surprised a poor young porcupine who had come here to drink, of whom our guides made lawful prize.—Near to this there are caverns of a great extent, where they carry on a manufactory of nitre, which is found in vast abundance on the sides of these caves.

The amphitheatre is in the form of a very eccentric ellipsis, and is much ruined; but the theatre is so entire, that most of the grandini or seats still remain. Both these are in that part of the city that was called Neapoli, or the New City. "*Quarta autem est urbs (says Cicero) quæ quia postrema ædificata est, Neapolis nominatur, quam ad summam theatrum est maximum,*" &c. However, it is but a small theatre in comparison of that of Tauromium. We searched among the sepulchres, several of which are very elegant, for that of Archimedes; but could see nothing resembling it.—At his own desire it was adorned with the figure of a sphere inscribed in a cylinder, but had been lost by his ungrateful countrymen, even before the time that Cicero was quæstor of Sicily.

The Catacombs are a great work; little inferior either to those of Rome or Naples, and in the same style.

As the celebrated fountain of Arethusa has ever been looked upon as one of the greatest curiosities of Syracuse, you may believe we were not a little impatient to examine it: and indeed only by observing Cicero's account of it, we soon found it out.—It still exactly answers the description he gives, except with regard to the great quantities of fish it contained, which seem now to have abandoned it.

Syracuse has two harbours; the largest of which, on

the south-west side of Ortigia, is reckoned six miles round, and was esteemed one of the best in the Mediterranean.

The small port is on the north-east of Ortigia, and is likewise recorded to have been highly ornamented.

Near this port, they show the spot where Archimedes' house stood ; and likewise the tower from whence he is said to have set fire to the Roman galleys with his burning glasses ; a story which is related by several authors, but which is now almost universally exploded, from the difficulty to conceive a burning glass, or a concave speculum, with a focus of such an immense length as this must have required."

CONSTANTINOPLE.

TURKEY IN EUROPE.

(*Various Authorities.*)

CONSTANTINOPLE, the capital of Turkey in Europe, is situated on the European side of the Bosphorus. It was built upon the ruins of the ancient Byzantium, by Constantine the Great. It became afterwards the capital of the Greek empire ; and, having escaped the destructive rage of the barbarous nations, it was the greatest as well as the most beautiful city in Europe, and the only one, during the Gothic ages, in which there remained any image of the ancient elegance in manners and arts. It derived great advantages from its being the rendezvous of the crusaders ; and, being then in the meridian of its glory, the European writers, in that age, speak of it with astonishment.

During the third crusade, a revolution happened at Constantinople, which divided the Eastern Empire for 58 years. Alexius Angelus, surnamed the Tyrant, having dethroned Isaac II. placed himself upon the throne of Constantinople, in 1195. Alexius, son of Isaac, applied to the French and Venetians, who passed that way to the holy wars, to assist him in the recovery of his father's empire. They accordingly, in 1203, reduced Constantinople, after a siege of eight days, and replaced Isaac on the throne. The next year, Alexius

Ducas Murzuffle assassinated the emperor, whom the crusaders had re-established, and seized the crown.—On hearing this, the French returned, attacked the city, reduced it in three days, deposed Murzuffle, and elected Baldwin, count of Flanders, to be emperor. He had four successors, the last of whom, Baldwin II. was deposed in 1262, by Michael Paleologus. In the mean time, Theodore Lascaris, who had been charged by the clergy to take arms against the tyrant Murzuffle, finding Constantinople in the power of the French, retired with his wife and family to Nice, where, in 1204 he was crowned emperor, and formed a small empire out of that of Constantinople. He had but three successors ; the last of whom, John Ducas, was deprived of his sight, in 1255, by order of Michael Paleologus, his preceptor, who usurped the throne in 1259, and, in 1262, made himself master of Constantinople, so that the empire was re-united, and continued till 1453, when Constantinople was taken by Mahomed II. sultan of the Ottoman Turks; since which period it has remained the seat of their empire.

Constantinople is at this day one of the finest cities in the world, from its situation and port. It is frequently called the *Porte*, by way of eminence. Great part of the city has been destroyed by conflagrations, pestilence, and earthquakes, at different times, of which the following are the most remarkable:—12,000 houses and 7000 inhabitants destroyed by fire, Sept. 27, 1729; again, May 31, 1745, 12000 houses; Jan. 29, 1749-50, 10,000; in June, 1750, 4000, and the plague 7000 persons; in 1751, nearly destroyed by an earthquake, and 3000 inhabitants killed; Sept. 2, 1754, had 15,000 houses, and 1000 persons burnt; 2000 houses burnt, Sept. 4, 1778; and 7000 houses in July, 1782. Another fire destroyed 10,000 houses, August 4, 1784; 32,600 houses were destroyed by fire between March and July, 1791; 7000 were destroyed, Sept. 1792, and the same number in August, 1795. The superb Pera had 1300 houses, and several magnificent buildings, burnt down March 13, 1799. In 1812 and 1813, 300,000 of its inhabitants were destroyed by a pestilence. In August 1816, had 1200 houses and 3000 shops destroyed by fire.

There has been on the whole a general disposition to exaggerate in regard to Constantinople; it has been nearly four centuries in possession of a nation that has no idea of architecture, comfort, or even of cleanliness. The filth is very disgusting to an European. Among other annoyances are the swarms of rats which infest at night, not only the buildings, but the streets. The rooms in the houses are always small; the windows disfigured by coloured glass; the panneling of the wainscoat diminutive, as in our old fashioned houses. The menagerie, which they are in the habit of pointing out to the admiration of strangers, is a filthy neglected place. Yet in some respects the Turks have been unjustly accused. It is wrong to charge on them the destruction of ancient monuments, for they are too indifferent and too indolent to make the least change in them. The mosques, such as St. Sophia and others, which were formerly Greek Churches, are allowed to retain all the Christian emblems; most of the imperfections that strike a traveller are the consequence of decay, injuries inflicted, at least as far as regards Pagan relics, are generally to be traced to the bigotted Christian Greeks of remote ages.

Constantinople has been the scene of many revolutions, and the assassination and massacre of various Sultans: one of the most affecting is given by Mr. Hobhouse, in his Journey through Albania, &c. The substance of of which we shall endeavour to collect for the information of those of our readers who may not be in possession of Mr. Hobhouse's interesting and intelligent work.

Selim! the best of the Turkish Emperors, the most humane, mild, and considerate; the most desirous of doing good; the most alive to the interests of his people; the most attentive to the weaknesses of the state; the most sensible, the best informed, and the most judicious, had he not fallen on evil days and troublous times. Perhaps he was not *firm* enough. Convinced of the inability of his military force, according to its antient constitution to meet modern armies with advantage, or even on equal terms, Selim, endeavoured to raise up a power which should counterpoise that of the Janissaries, before he disbanded that inefficient corps. He failed,

from circumstances beyond his controul. The troops who were not a match for their enemies, were more than a match for their Sultan; and the complaint of *innovation* became the pretext for revolt. Mr. H. adds the "increasing kindness with which General Sebastiani was received at all hours in the Seraglio, and enjoyed familiar converse with the Sultan himself, became a topic of animadversion" among the Ecclesiastics, who now united with the Soldiery. In the month of May 1807, the tumult burst out. Already had several bloody victims fallen, if possible to satisfy the enraged troops: but they declared that "*The heads exposed were not those of the enemies whose punishment they had demanded.*" The Sultan hearing this last intelligence, sent for the Mufti, and on learning that he withheld his advice, found that he had ceased to reign.

The Janissaries, headed by the traitor Mousa, had already found their way into the Seraglio, when the Sultan retired to the mosque of the palace, and wrapping himself in the robe of Mahomet, took his seat in the corner of the sanctuary. Here he was found by the Mufti, who intreated him to submit to the wishes of the people, and to resign his crown. Another report says, that previously to this moment, he had told his attendants that he would reign no more, and ordered them to bring his successor before him. The circumstances of his actual deposition were not exactly known; but on the evening of the same day (the 29th) it was understood in all the quarters of the capital, that Selim, the most injured if not the best of the Ottomans, had stepped from a throne to a prison, and that the reigning monarch was his cousin Mustapha the Fourth, eldest son of Sultan Abdulhamid.

But Selim had officers who loved his person and respected his virtues. Mustapha Pacha of Rudshuk, surnamed Bairactar (*Ensign*) in memorial of humble origin, promoted, as he constantly boasted, by the personal favour of his Sovereign, continued to adhere to him, though averse to his innovations. He collected an army of nearly 40,000 men, chiefly Albanians, and advanced to Constantinople about the end of the year. His force inspired terror; and though Mustapha sat on

the throne in the Seraglio, yet the real power, and even the semblance of power, was transferred to the camp of Bairactar.

The 28th of July, of the year 1808, was fixed upon by Mustapha for a hunting expedition to the forests of Belgrade, and it was determined by Bairactar to enter the Seraglio on the same day, during the absence of the Grand Signior, and preventing his return to the palace, finally to exclude him from the throne. Selim was yet alive in those apartments of the Seraglio which the crimes and misfortunes of the Ottomans have set apart for the confinement of their dethroned princes, and it was the preservation of the Sultan whom he resolved to restore, that prompted him to attempt by stratagem that which he might have accomplished by force. Unfortunately the secret of his intention was not confined to his own breast, but was entrusted to several of the ministers of the Divan, and the Grand Vizier, though a friend, was suspected to have betrayed him to the Sultan; for on the appointed day, when Bairactar marched into the city, he found the gates of the Seraglio closed, the pages and body guard under arms, and every preparation for a determined resistance.

The victorious rebel disappointed, but not intimidated, gave orders for an immediate assault. The contest lasted only a short time, but the interval was fatal to Selim. On the sound of the first shot, the emissaries of the Sultan were dispatched to his apartments, where they found, as is reported, the dethroned monarch at his devotions, and attempted to surprise him whilst in the attitude of prayer. He discerned their purpose, and before the bow-string could be fitted to his neck, wounded one of the mutes with his hanger, but being thrown upon his back, was overpowered, and instantly strangled.

From the murder of Selim the executioners proceeded to the apartments of Mahmoud, the youngest son of Abdulhamid, and the only remaining prince of the blood royal. There was still some hope for the Sultan in the eventual death of his brother. Selim was no more: the rebels, the audacious Bairactar himself, would respect the last of the Ottoman race. The mutes rushed into the chamber of the confined prince; but Mahmoud was

no where to be found : the fond fidelity of a slave had concealed him in the furnace of a bath. The feeble contest continued under the walls, and the assailants thundered at the gates, whilst the search for the prince was prosecuted with redoubled eagerness and anxiety. The place of his concealment had alone escaped the scrutiny, and the fate of the monarchy depended upon whether or not the gates should be forced before the royal prisoner was discovered. What must have been the feelings of Mahmoud, what the sensations of his faithful slave, when the shouts of the Albanians proclaimed that Bairactar had burst his way into the Seraglio ? The insurgents rushed to the interior of the palace, headed by their leader, and by the intrepid Seid Ali, the the Capudan-Pasha. Advancing to the third gate, they called aloud for the instant appearance of Selim, and the eunuchs of Mustapha casting the body of the murdered monarch before them, exclaimed *Behold the Sultan whom ye seek !* Bairactar, overpowered at the sight, threw himself on the corpse of his murdered benefactor, and wept bitterly ; but being roused by the exhortation of Seid Ali, who told him that this was not the time for grief but for revenge, proceeded hastily to the presence chamber. Mustapha never shewed himself worthy of his crown until the moment when he was compelled to resign it. He did not despair of awing the rebels into submission by the Ottoman majesty : at least he was determined to fall with dignity, and on the entrance of Bairactar was found seated upon his throne in his usual state, and surrounded by the officers of the Imperial household. The indignant chief was not moved by the august spectacle, but advancing towards the Sultan, drew him from his seat, saying to him in a bold and angry tone, **WHAT DOST THOU THERE ? YIELD THAT PLACE TO A WORTHIER !**

The account of the conduct of the Sultan is variously related in the different reports of this last transaction of his reign ; but whatever was the measure of his resistance, it proved ineffectual ; for on the same night the cannon of the Seraglio announced to the people the dethronement of Mustapha the Fourth, and the elevation of Mahomet the Second.

A GENERAL VIEW OF THE ANTIQUITIES OF
CONTINENTAL EUROPE.*(From Various Authorities.)*

A DESCRIPTION of all the Antiquities, ancient and modern Cities of eminence in Europe, the reader has been previously cautioned not to expect.—The following article will therefore contain nothing more than an attempt to record some of the remains of former ages, now or late in existence on the European Continent: the most remarkable on our own ~~Island~~ will compose separate descriptions.

Travelling from South to North, we commence with
SPAIN.

Of the first epochs it can hardly be supposed that any remains should exist, except a few tumuli, and other rude monuments. Nor are there any certain relics of the Carthagenians in Spain, except coins, which have been found in considerable numbers.

The Roman antiquities are, on the contrary, so numerous, that to enter into details on the subject would be prolix, and foreign to the nature of this work. The Aqueduct at Segovia is one of the noblest of the Roman edifices. Morviedo, the ancient Saguntum, presents many curious remains of antiquity. Tarragona, the ancient Tarraco, also contains several interesting monuments.

The Visigothic kings have left few relics, except their coins, which are struck in gold; a metal then unknown to the other European mints, and seemingly native.—The churches, &c. of that period were probably destroyed by the Moorish conquest.

Numerous and splendid are the monuments of the Moors in Spain. The mosque at Cordova was begun by Abdoulrahman, the first chaliff. The second chaliff of that name reared the walls of Seville. But these princes were far exceeded in magnificence by Abdoulrahman III, who built a town three miles from Cordova, which he called Zehra, after the name of one of his female favourites; and ordered a palace to be constructed by the most skilful architects of Constantinople,

a youth of distinguished bravery, whom they had placed at their head.

On the 16th Cadi-Pacha passed over from Scutari at the head of his eight thousand troops, and marching through the court of St. Sophia, proceeded to the barracks of the Gebeges, in the vicinity of the mosck, where five hundred of the Janissaries had taken their stand. Cadi surrounding the square, did not attempt to force an entrance, but setting fire to the building, retained his regiments at their stations until the quarters were consumed, and the whole of the five hundred were burnt alive.

The Asiatics, leaving the ruins in flames, made no efforts to extinguish the spreading conflagration, but departed in search of their enemies, and filled the streets with carnage. The town was in a blaze from the walls of the Seraglio to the aqueduct of Valens, and a man-of-war, by the order of Seid Ali, continued at the same time to play upon the Janissaries' barracks. The event was doubtful on the night of the 16th, during which the shrieks of the women, the shouts of the soldiers, and the repeated discharges of fire-arms, declared to the terrified inhabitants of Pera that the sanguinary struggle had not ceased in any quarter of the city. The fire had raged for four and twenty hours, and the artillery of the ship was still beating upon the barracks of the Etmeidan, when, on the ensuing morning, the forces of the arsenal and of Tophana, announced that they had united themselves to the Janissaries, and thus gave the victory to the least deserving of the antagonists.

Until that moment Sultan Mahmoud, having closed the palace gates, awaited within the walls of the Seraglio the event of the contest, but the decision of the seamen and the cannoniers, rendered it necessary for him to consult his own safety by an exertion of the Imperial authority in behalf of the triumphant party. His counsellors, for it is not known that Mahmoud himself gave the order, thought fit to secure him from the victors by the death of the imprisoned Mustapha, who was strangled, and that so secretly, that the circumstances of his execution have never transpired.

Any remarks of ours on these ferocities would but weaken their effect on the minds of our readers.

EDIFICES of Spain are the cathedrals of the several sees, and the churches belonging to opulent convents. The houses of the nobility are confined, with few exceptions, to the capital and other cities, instead of adorning the country at large, as in England. The palace and monastery of the Escorial have been described at great length by many travellers. It is seated in a deep recess, at the foot of high mountains; and was built by that bigot Philip II, in the strange form of a gridiron, the instrument of the martyrdom of St. Lawrence, upon whose anniversary the Spaniards gained the victory of St. Quintin. The convent is 740 feet by 580; and the palace forms the handle of this imaginary gridiron. The paintings are excellent and numerous; and the vault containing the royal tombs is grand and impressive. But the palaces of Aranjuez and St. Ildefonso are great favourites with the court. The gardens of the former, watered by the Tajo, are laid out in a just and natural taste. St Ildefonso is a summer residence, exposed to the north. The Pardo, another palace, stands in the middle of a large forest.

FRANCE.

Several ancient monuments exist in France which are ascribed to the first epoch. The Greek colony at Marseilles seems to have imparted some degree of civilization to the country, and the rude Gallic coins are evidently in imitation of the Grecian model.

The Roman antiquities in France are numerous, and some of them in excellent preservation. Those at Nîmes are particularly celebrated, consisting chiefly of an amphitheatre, and the temple called La Maison Carre.

The other periods of French antiquity have been ably illustrated by the learned work of Montfaucon; and the disclosure of the grave of Childeric, near Tournay, in the last century, presented some of the most curious fragments. In an old tower of St. Germain des Pres are representations of several of the first monarchs of the Franks, and many of their effigies were preserved on their tombs at St. Dennis, and other places, till the late revolution.

The monuments of the Carlovingian race are yet

more numerous, and Roman mosaics have illustrated the fame of Charlemagne. Of the latter periods the monuments are so numerous, that it would be vain to attempt to enumerate them. One of the most singular is the suit of tapestry, which was preserved in the Cathedral church of Bayeux, in Normandy, representing the beginning and termination of the grand contest between William and Harold, which led to the conquest of England by the Normans. It is said to have been the work of Matilda, wife of William ; and bears every mark of that remote antiquity.

THE NETHERLANDS.

The remains of Roman art are little memorable, and the chief antiquities consist in grand ecclesiastical and civil monuments of the middle ages, when these regions concentrated a great part of the wealth of Europe, and abounded in excellent artists of all descriptions.

AUSTRIAN DOMINIONS.

The ancient monuments of the more northern kingdoms and provinces belonging to Austria cannot be expected to be very numerous or important. Vindobonum, and the adjacent parts of Noricum and Pannonia, occasionally display Roman remains ; but the ruins of the celebrated bridge of Trajan, over the Danube, belong to Turkey in Europe, being situated not far from Widin, in Bulgaria, it is supposed to have consisted of 20 arches, or rather vast piers of stone, originally supporting a wooden fabrick of the length of more than 3,300 English feet. In Hungary, and other parts of the ancient province of Dacia, appear many relics of Roman power, as military roads, ruins, &c. Hungary and the other provinces of the Austrian dominions, having been frequently exposed to the ravages of war, many ancient monuments have perished ; yet several castles, churches, and monasteries still attest the magnificence of the founders. The cathedral church of St. Stephen, in Vienna, is a Gothic fabric of singular pomp and minute decoration.

PRUSSIA.

The antiquities of Prussia are few and very uninteresting.

DENMARK AND NORWAY.

The ancient monuments of Denmark and Norway are chiefly what are called Runic ; though it be clear at what period the use of the Runic character extended so far to the north. Circles of upright stones are common in all the Danish dominions ; in Iceland their origin is perfectly ascertained, as some were erected even in recent times of the Icelandic republic, but called Dombring, or Circles of Judgment. Monuments also occur of the other forms imagined by our antiquaries to be Druidic. The churches of Bergen and Drontheim were both built of stone in the eleventh century. The residences of the chiefs appear to have been generally constructed of wood, for there are ancient castles to be found in Denmark or Norway.

Those of Sweden have a very near resemblance to Danish and Scotch antiquities.

RUSSIA.

Of ancient monuments, Russia cannot be supposed to afford great variety. Sometimes the tombs of the pagan ancestors are discovered, containing weapons and ornaments.* The catacombs at Kiow were performed in the Pagan period, though they be now replete with marks of Christianity. They are labyrinthine to a considerable extent, dug, as would appear, through masses of hardened clay, but they do not seem to contain the bodies of the monarchs.

The conversion of the Russians must of course have been followed by the erection of many churches : as Byzantine, or Italian architects were employed, the edifices have but few peculiarities. Perhaps no country of considerable extent can afford fewer monuments of ancient art than Russia.

* Vide page 57 Museum Americanum.

THE CITY OF MOSCOW,

RUSSIA.

(The Editor from various Authorities.)

MOSCOW, once the greatest city in the Russian empire, and now celebrated as the spot on which the tary progress of the Emperor Napoleon was comely arrested, is seated in a fine spacious plain, on river of its name, over which it has a stately bridge twelve arches, of a prodigious height and breadth. It built by Prince Gafschin, from the design of a Pomonk. The town stands in a gravelly soil, and lesome air, and almost in the centre of the best proce of Muscovy. In 1662, when Lord Carlisle was masador there from King Charles II, it was 12 miles circumference, and so full of houses and inhabitants, : the number of the former was, by the lowest calculations, said to have amounted to forty thousand; and, he Russians, affirmed to have been above double : number. According to an account which was n to Mr. Coxe by an English gentleman, which he dived from a lieutenant of the police, and which, he , may be relied on, Moscow contained, within the parts, two hundred and fifty thousand, and, in the cent villages, fifty thousand persons. Two French rellers, who were there in 1792, say, that its population, at that time, consisted of from three hundred issand to three hundred and twenty eight thousand s, in summer; but that, in winter, it increased to rly four hundred thousand.

The streets of Moscow were not regular, but it presented a very picturesque appearance; for it contained h a number of gardens, groves, lawns, and streams, t it seemed rather to be a cultivated country, than ty. Its ancient magnificence would be incredible, were it not attested by the most unquestionable hors; but great allowances must be made for the ultivated state of the adjacent province, which ht make it appear with greater lustre in a traveller's . Busching speaks of this city as the largest in Eu-e: but that can be only meant as to the ground it

stood on, computed to be sixteen miles in circumference. It is generally admitted that Moscow contained one thousand six hundred churches and convents, and forty-three palaces or squares; a fact which is confirmed by M. Reidbeck, a German traveller, who was at that city in the autumn of 1805. The merchants' exchange, according to Busching, contained about six thousand fine shops, displaying a vast parade of commerce, especially to and from China. No city, however, exhibited a greater contrast than Moscow of magnificence and meanness in building. The houses of the inhabitants in general were miserable timber booths; but their palaces, churches, convents, and other public edifices, were spacious and lofty. The Kremlin, or grand imperial palace, has been described as one of the most superb structures in the world: it stood in the interior circle of the city, and contained the old imperial palace, pleasure-house, and stables, a victualling-house, the palace which formerly belonged to the patriarch, nine cathedrals, five convents, four parish churches, the arsenal, with the public colleges, and other offices. All the churches in the Kremlin had beautiful spires, most of them gilt or covered with silver; the architecture was in the Gothic taste: but the inside of the churches richly ornamented; and the pictures of the saints were decorated with gold, silver, and precious stones. The cathedral had nine towers, covered with copper, double-gilt, and contained a silver branch, with forty-eight lights, said to weigh two thousand eight hundred pounds. Its sumptuous monuments of the great dukes and czars, the magazine, the patriarchal palace, the exchequer, and chancery, were all noble structures. The Russians have a barbarous anecdote, that the czar, John Basilides, ordered the architect of the church of Jerusalem to be deprived of his eye-sight, that he might never contrive its equal. M. Voltaire says, that Peter the Great, who was a tentative to every thing, did not neglect Moscow at the time he was building Petersburg; for he caused it to be paved, adorned it with noble edifices, and enriched it with manufactures.

The foundling-hospital at Moscow was an excellent institution, founded by the empress Catharine II., and

supported by voluntary contributions, legacies, and other charitable endowments. It was an immense pile of building, of a quadrangular shape, and contained three thousand foundlings.

To this account, *by way of set off*, the following interesting particulars are given from the travels of Dr. Clarke.

We arrived at the season of the year in which this city is most interesting to strangers. Moscow is in every thing extraordinary; as well in disappointing expectation, as in surpassing it; in causing wonder and derision, pleasure and regret. Let me conduct the reader back with me again to the gate by which we entered, and thence through the streets. Numerous spires, glittering with gold, amidst burnished domes and painted palaces, appear in the midst of an open plain, for several versts before you reach this gate. Having passed, you look about, and wonder what is become of the city, or where you are; and are ready to ask, once more, 'How far is it to Moscow?' They will tell you, 'This is Moscow;' and you behold nothing but a wide and scattered suburb, huts, gardens, pig-sties, brick-walls, churches, dunghills, palaces, timber-yards, warehouses, and a refuse, as it were, of materials, sufficient to stock an empire with miserable towns and miserable villages."

BURNING OF MOSCOW.

To the above description of Moscow as it was, previous to the Napoleon Conflagration, we add some account of that terrific, yet patriotic event; to which we also subjoin brief particulars of former calamities, of the same nature.

The catastrophe which destroyed its ancient metropolis in 1812, was doubtless anticipated by the Russian government. The general plan of the campaign was to abandon and destroy; and the emperor Alexander visited Moscow more than two months before the arrival of the French, that he might kindle in all ranks a spirit of patriotic devotion. In August, and the early part of September, when the enemy continued to advance, and it was thought impossible to stop their farther progress,

count Rostopchin, the governor, took precautionary measures, and forewarned the inhabitants in several mysterious proclamations, of the sacrifices which they would be called upon to make. The churches and the treasury in the Kremlin, were stript of their most precious ornaments; the persons belonging to the public establishments, such as the university, the seminary for the daughters of noblemen, and the foundling hospital, were removed to Kasan, in the interior; and barks loaded with corn, were sunk in the Moskva, to prevent their cargoes falling into the hands of the enemy. The decisive battle of Borodino was fought on the 8th September, about 70 miles from Moscow, and the hospitals of the city were soon after filled with wounded, many of whom were eventually destroyed by the flames. On the news of the retreat of the Russian army, a general movement took place in Moscow; the roads became covered with fugitives, who sought an asylum in the adjacent country; those who remained saw at night the horizon illuminated to the westward, by their troops retiring before the French, and destroying the villages which they abandoned. On the 13th September, the enemy drew near, the mass of the population of Moscow now left their houses, and spread themselves over the surrounding country. Rostopchin carefully concealed the project of destroying the city, sent a flag of truce requesting the French to spare it, and surrendered it without resistance. He then left the city, along with all the public officers; and the vanguard of the French, on entering it on the 14th, were surprised at the silence which prevailed. A fire broke out that night in a warehouse, near the centre of the city, but it was soon got under; and it was not till the 15th that fires burst forth in the shops. Even then they were thought to have proceeded from the imprudence of the bivouacs, and were again extinguished. On the night of the 16th, however, a general conflagration took place; explosions in different places, and the throwing of fagots from the tops of towers, clearly shewed that means were employed to spread it far and wide. During the day, the smoke rolling in thick clouds over the town, obscured the light, and the disk of the sun appeared of

a crimson hue. At night a vast globe of flame illuminated the horizon for several leagues around. The conflagration was rapidly propagated by a strong wind and several quarters of the town took fire, burned, and disappeared in a few hours. The larger buildings were heard to fall with a dreadful crash; the stone pillars calcined and blackened, alone remained to point out their site. With all the vigilance of the French centinels, it was impossible to discover by whom the flames had been so suddenly kindled and so widely spread.* A number of stragglers, whom they suspected and arrested, were afterwards tried by a military commission and some of them shot. A mystery hangs over the origin of this scene of devastation, from the evident policy of throwing the odium of it on the French; but all the men arrested in attempts to spread the flames, declared that they acted under the orders of Rostopchin and the director of police. Besides, the fire-men and fire-engines had all been sent out of the city. The delay to the night of the 16th may be ascribed to two causes—waiting for a wind to spread the flames, and a wish to leave no doubt on the public mind that it was the act of the enemy, now in full possession of the city. The French officers, on finding it impracticable to extinguish the flames, authorised a systematic pillage, and the different corps of the army were admitted by turns. The plunder was immense; but the greatest part of it was subsequently abandoned in the disasters of the retreat.—The fire raged during the whole of the 17th and 18th, of September, and was not got under till the 19th.—Buonaparte, who, with his *etat major*, had fled from the Kremlin in the leight of the conflagration, now re-entered that palace. The chief part of the magazines were destroyed. Still he professed an intention of making Moscow his winter quarters, and caused the prison, called the Ostrog, which is surrounded with walls and towers, to be fortified, and made a depot for magazines. He remained in Moscow a month, in the vain hope of prevailing on the Russian court to conclude a peace with an enemy in possession of its capital.—

* See Napoleon's description of this terrific conflagration, page 98 *Museum Africanum*.

Defied at last in this expectation, he left the city, with his staff, on the night of the 18th October. The Cosacs, apprised of this movement, entered the suburbs next day. The young guard, which formed the garrison left by Buonaparte, intrenched itself in the Kremlin, and having undermined part of the walls and interior buildings, blew them up on the morning of the 23d October, the day of the final evacuation. The Russian magistrates entered the town immediately after.

Moscow has been several times consumed by fire, either in whole or in part—either by accident or by an enemy. Moscow, says Hanway, was said to have suffered within twenty years, the loss of above thirty thousand houses. In 1752, the fire in two hours time was carried to the extent of two English miles. In 1611, it was so entirely consumed by the Poles, that nothing remained beside the castle, or Kremlin. But perhaps the most remarkable of the conflagrations it has suffered is that from the Tartars in 1571, in which three hours sufficed for its entire consumption: A city of 40,000 houses swept from the face of the earth in three hours!

The following accounts appear to be copies of parts of two letters written from the spot by members of the English factory resident in that city. They evidently contain the observations of eye witnesses. They were thought sufficiently curious by John Stow, to be copied by him; as they are by us to be laid before our readers.

“The 24th of May being Ascension-day, the Kynge of the Crimmes came to the citie Moscow with above 120,000 horsemen and men of warr, the imperial Capteynes and men of warr lying in garrisons and in the towns abroad, and the Muscovites being unprovided, the said Tartars set a fyre the citie and subbarbes, and both castells, I say all tymber worke therein was consumed to ashes; assuredly I thynke Sodom and Gomorrhah were not in so short a tyme consumed. I believe it was a plague sent by God for the wickedness of the people, the morning was exceedinge clere, fair and calme, without any wynd, but being a fyre, there was nothings but whirlwyndes, and such a noyse as though the heavens should have fallen, and in such terrible wise, that when men wer ether in the howses or in the streets they were destroyed, for all the contrye within xx miles

compass came into the citie and castles, so did all the subbarbes, so that all the howses and streets were full of people, that men could scarce goe for them in the streets, and all consumed with fyre except certain men of warre which were skyrnshyng with the Tartars, and a few others that fled over the walls into the river, wher some were drowned and some saved, and in a few sellers and churches a great number of them were roasted to deathe."

"The Crimme vassal to the Turks (says another writer) hath overrun the best part of the dominions, and in 8 houres after my deliverance out of Moscow, wherein I note God's good providence, ye gates of the towne were shut up, no man suffered to pass out, and such a candle light within 8 miles of Moscow in one of the dukes howses, that it might be seen of all Moscow, being by estimation xx myles in compasse, which also not long after was consumed with fyre and nat one strete left. In one howse perished Thomas Howtham, Thomas Field, John Waverley, Thos. Carver, apothecary, and Thos. Chasens; these with other strangers, all to ye number of 25 persons dyed in oure howse. The number that perished at the destruction of Moscow was so great by report, that I will not name it, this will I say, that all the cuntrye for ten miles round, scarcely a man dyd escape."

MOSCOW SINCE THE NAPOLEON CONFLAGRATION.

Nearly three-fourths of the city had been consumed by the conflagration, the Kremlin and Bielo-gorod being almost the only quarters preserved. For some time the rebuilding went on slowly: the years of 1813 and part of 1814, were years of war and heavy expence; but no sooner was peace concluded, than the greatest exertions were made to this effect, both by the government and individuals; and by the beginning of 1818, a new city seemed to have risen from the ruins. The Kitaigorod or quarter for the exchange and mercantile warehouses; the more extensive quarter of the Semlian-gorod; and even the Siobodes or suburbs, were all rebuilt before or

a public building called *Thermæ*, from its warm baths but the town was still insignificant, when in the year 360, it was the winter quarters of Julian. In the 5th century it was taken by the Franks; and in 508, it was constituted the capital of their kingdom. It was improved by Charlemagne, and surrounded with walls at the end of the 12th century, by which time it had become a considerable city, with paved streets. The latter were much improved by Francis I. in the beginning of the 16th, and farther by Henry IV. towards its close. Under Louis XIV. took place the grand improvement of levelling the Boulevards, or great circular mound filling up the moat, and planting the whole with beautiful rows of trees. Versailles, however, was the chief care of the Bourbons; and Paris received only slow and partial embellishments, until the revolution, when it became the interest of the new rulers, particularly Buonaparte, to conciliate the favour of the city which gave law to France.

In population, Paris has for a long time back experienced an increase less rapid than London, though considerable, particularly since the revolution. In 1792, the inhabitants were computed at 550,000; in 1817, they were found by actual survey to amount to 715,000. As to climate, the summer in Paris is somewhat hotter than London; the winter fully as cold, though shorter; the weather on the whole less variable.

We shall now devote a few pages to such interesting particulars connected with the French metropolis as are not to be met with in works of a general nature, chiefly from the *Picture of Paris*, published by Sherwood, Neely and Jones, London.

THE ROYAL MUSEUM IN THE LOUVRE.—The whole of the Louvre forms a grand Museum of Arts, and is the repository of all the pictures formerly scattered in various departments of France, and those lately brought from different palaces, chateaus, &c. &c.—There is also still a fine collection of sculpture. The performances of living artists and their pupils are exhibited every two years in a large gallery of the Louvre and several learned men and eminent artists have apartments assigned to them in this palace.

The statues and antiques are arranged in several fine halls or rooms; and the grand gallery which contains the pictures is one of the most astonishing in the world. The length of the room is 1300 feet, and it presents one of the most enchanting perspectives. Although but a small portion of the unrivalled collection of paintings which once adorned this gallery still remains, yet it has to boast more than two hundred undoubted originals of the following celebrated masters—Raffael, Titian, Dominichino, Tintoret, Murillo, Julio Romano, Cuyp, Ruysdael, Vandyck, Sneyders, Correggio, da Vinci, Guido, Paul Veronese, Salvator Rosa, the Carraccis, Rembrandt, some masterpieces of Rubens, Teniers, Berghem, &c. In addition to these is an excellent collection of the masters of the French School, and numerous other paintings equal, in point of quantity, to those which formerly adorned the walls of this superb gallery.

THE MUSEUM OF FRENCH MONUMENTS.—During the phrenzy of the French revolution, many churches were reduced to ruins; most of the monuments they contained were mutilated, and many of them destroyed. The tombs at St. Denis, in particular, were torn up by the unballowed hands of ignorant barbarian despoilers. When the body of Henry the Fourth was discovered, it was found in such a state of preservation, that the features of his face were not altered. It was a dry mummy, had the skull sawed, and in the place of the brain, which had been taken out, contained some tow, steeped in an aromatic liquor, which sent forth a strong odour. A soldier, who was present, moved by a martial enthusiasm, at the instant of opening the coffin, threw himself on the body, and after a long silence of admiration, *drew his sword, cut off a long lock from the beard, which was still fresh, and exclaimed, at the same time, in a very energetic manner, "And I too am a French soldier! henceforth I will have no other mustachios."* As he placed it on his upper lip, "*Now,*" said he, "*I am sure to conquer the enemies of France; and I march to victory."* Immediately after he had uttered these words, he disappeared, and was never seen again in the town.

The *Convent of the Augustines* (the Westminster abbey of France) is the monastery in which were deposited these curious relics of ancient art, which accident escaped, or were by artifice rescued, from the fatal of indiscriminate political fury.

The building which contains these monuments resembles a cathedral church. It is encompassed by square walls, and has a garden, the funeral decor of which are appropriate to the situation.

The monuments are distributed in different means: and, by their arrangement, exhibit the art statuary in France, from the earliest periods to present time. They are arranged according to respective antiquity, each containing specimens single century, which is numbered at the entrance receiving light through windows of painted glass cut during that period.

THE ROYAL LIBRARY. — Paris abounds in libraries is the most convenient residence, on this account, other city. London is the capital of Great Britain, of Italy, &c.: but Paris, in this respect, is the cap Europe. The access to these treasures of genius industry is easy and inviting to all who come with idle curiosity, or painful and laborious research.

This library traces its origin to a very remote age. Charles V. added about 900 volumes to the little collection of his father John, which consisted of about a dozen volumes of history or science, and three or of theology. This collection was placed in a tower the Louvre, which was called *la Tour de la Librie* and which was lighted every night by thirty little deliers, and a silver lamp, so that the learned students were accommodated here at every hour. The library was afterwards dispersed; for when in the year Paris was in the hands of the English, under the command of the Duke of Bedford, that nobleman bought 150 volumes, of which it then consisted, for 1900 £. Louis XI. collected the scattered remnants of this library, and profited by the resources which the invention of printing presented him. Charles VIII. added what the conquests of Italy allowed him to collect. Louis XII. enriched it with the library of Petrus

I. with Greek manuscripts; and Henry II. ordered it, in consequence of the decree of 1556, en-book-sellers to furnish the royal libraries with a vellum of every book published.

Building of the library, with its appurtenances, large; its length being no less than 544 English feet and its breadth 128.

The library was, in former times, allowed to equal, if excel, every other collection extant. It was enriched by the additions from Venice, Florence, &c., most of which were restored in 1815, but it is scarcely in the power of words to convey a true idea of its value. It consists of more than 100,000 printed volumes and 80,000 manuscripts. It is divided into five departments. The first, containing printed books is on the first story.

The second department contains manuscripts to the number of eighty thousand; twenty-five thousand of these are in learned and foreign languages, and thirty thousand on the History of France, chiefly from the reign of Louis XI.

There is also a large collection of the French King's missals, or missals, all very beautifully written on vellum, and embellished with elegant borders and wings: most of them Scripture Histories. On the east of one of these missals is a beautiful drawing of a river, with its name in Latin and French, so that it is a collection of botanical, as well as of religious,

and a collection of engravings is unrivalled, and contains some of the most exquisite specimens of the art of the engraver.

Cabinet of medals and antiquities at the Royal Library, under the care of the celebrated antiquary M. de la Harpe, is highly deserving the notice of the curious; it is unusually rich even after its losses in 1815. The coins and medals alone stamp it the first collection in

TRIUMPHAL PILLAR IN THE PLACE VENDOME.—The pillar, erected in honour of the French armies, was designed in imitation of that of Trajan.—The height is 123 feet, including the pedestal. The

height of the pedestal is about 22 feet, and from 17 to 20 in breadth, corresponding with the cornice ; the base of the shaft is about 12 feet in diameter.

This superb pillar to the honour of the French armies was constructed under the direction of M. Denon, according to the design of M. Lepere, the architect, from cannon taken from the enemy ; it was begun in the month of August 1807, and completed in August 1810.

When the emperor Alexander first saw this monument with the bronze statue of Buonaparte then on the top (since replaced by a white flag) he wittily observed, " If I stood so high, I should grow dizzy." An English visitor, who was fortunate enough to ascend this pillar, whence there is a fine view of Paris, made the following extempore lines :

One hundred steps I scaled with toil and pain,
Looked round, grew dizzy, and came down again :
And now that I am lodged again below
Who cares that I have scaled that height or no ?
Such, I exclaimed, is high ambition's lot,
To climb, grow giddy, fall, and be forgot.

THE CATACOMBS.

PARIS.

On entering the Catacombs, the mind is awfully impressed with the long galleries and numerous apartments, all furnished, or (if we may be allowed the expression) ornamented with bones. The largest skulls and thigh bones are symmetrically disposed in compartments, and form as it were the facing of these mournful walls, behind which are placed the smaller bones.— " What frightful decorations ! (exclaims a recent traveller) walls, arcades and pillars of bones adorned, not with garlands of roses and myrtles, but with arabesques of arm and leg bones, and instead of heads of genii and cornucopias, with ghastly skulls ! Altars of death's heads in symmetrical order gradually growing smaller towards the top, and crowned with crossed bones : a mosaic work, which, by its regularity and harsh contrast of the white lime-wash with the dark brown colour of the bones, that never blanch in these humid vaults,

heightens the gravity, the musing melancholy and awe that penetrate the inmost recesses of the soul in these repositories of mortality. Death, nevertheless, loses some of his terrors in the bosom of the catacombs: his work is here accomplished: worms have consumed the forsaken tenements of the spirit; its remains only are consigned to the ravages of Time, who gradually associates them again with the dust from which they sprung."

The remains of nearly two millions and a half slumber here—four times the present population of Paris, with all their gigantic projects and all their insect cares. In some of the apartments are altars, similar to those occurring in the modern French churches; others are made in imitation of the antique, and are sometimes composed of bones cemented with plaster. Every where inscriptions present themselves, written in black letters on a white ground, containing sentences according with every kind of system, some religious and others philosophical.

Such are the Catacombs of Paris; an establishment not only convenient, but also absolutely necessary in so populous a city; where, however capacious its cemeteries may be, the graves are liable to be re opened after the lapse of a few years, and long before the bones can possibly be consumed.

These excavations were originally quarries, whence stone was dug, for many centuries, for constructing the edifices of Paris, and were at first made as chance, or perhaps the facility of working them, directed. These quarries being, in the course of time, exhausted, and the entrances to them having fallen in, or being filled up, their existence was for a long time totally forgotten, until several fatal accidents happened in the year 1774, when the attention of the French government was directed to them, and the extent of the very imminent danger which menaced Paris became known, together with the necessity of taking the most prompt and efficacious measures for averting it. Orders were issued for a general inspection of the excavations, of which plans were also taken, towards the close of 1776: the vague reports which had been in circulation, were now converted into certainty, and the fact was proved, that the

churches, palaces, and most of the public roads belonging to the southern quarters of the French metropolis, were on the point of being precipitated into immense gulfs. By a series of long-continued labours, however, they have so admirably disposed the solid works in these excavations, that each subterranean street corresponds with the street above, and the numbers of the houses under ground correspond with those on the surface of the earth : hence, if the ground should sink in any part of Paris, a suitable remedy may instantly be applied. These excavations reach beneath the extensive plain of the Faubourg of St. Germain, forming nearly the whole of the southern half of Paris, and under a small part of the department of the Seine in the northern division.

The following authentic anecdote of two Russian officers who lost themselves in the Catacombs, by wandering from their party, is related by a recent traveller :—" Judge of our astonishment (says this writer) when on turning a corner we perceived at a distance, by the light of our torches, two Russian officers, who hastened towards us, with an exclamation of the most lively joy, which was answered with equal warmth by their comrades who belonged to our party. They had come the preceding day to see the catacombs : out of curiosity and a romantic desire for discoveries; they had deviated from the black line, lost the guide with the company, and were not missed by him when he came to count over the party at going out, because his attention was diverted by a posse of English travellers. After a long, fatiguing and dangerous ramble, in these labyrinths, they at length found the line again, but too late ; they then reached the outlet, all was silent, their companions were gone, and they found themselves alone in these abodes of death. In this critical situation, the most rational course they could pursue was to wait patiently for the moment of their deliverance. One hour passed after another ; a reference to their watches by the last gleam of their expiring tapers, informed them of the approach of night, and deprived them of all hope of revisiting the upper world before the succeeding day.— They now prepared a couch of skulls and bones, and

thus bivouacked in a camp of skeletons more numerous than the victims of ambition, with which any conqueror ever bestrewed a field of battle.

"They depicted to us in lively colours their feelings amidst this everlasting night, and in this prodigious company of ghastly bedfellows; their alarm heightened by the consideration of the dreadful possibility that hunger might soon add them to the number of the victims of death, and their excessive joy on hearing the sound of human voices, and perceiving the light of our torches, which announced the termination of their twenty-four hours captivity. Our guide, who was a considerable distance a-head with part of the company, had not remarked the extraordinary increase of our number: the Russians anticipated his surprise and the expression of his reproving conscience, when he should come to count over the party and discover the addition. The appearance of his features was truly striking, when upon mustering his troop he found the number of the Russians doubled; a few words of explanation, however, soon removed his astonishment, and he begged pardon in the humblest terms, intreating us to say nothing about the matter. "Never mind it," replied one of the involuntary inhabitants of these nether regions, a veteran with silver hair, "indeed it is scarcely worth my while to go up again." A tear of sensibility glistened in the eye of our fair Parisian companion; we all shook hands and departed, in order to appear some day in the costumes of the slumberers whom we had been visiting, though not in these catacombs."

THE CEMETRY OF LE PERE LA CHAISE, NEAR PARIS.

This Cemetery lies to the east of Paris, in front of the barrier d'Aunay, and on the north side of the boulevard of that name, near the road to Montreuil. Louis XIV built a handsome house on this spot for his confessor, le Pere la Chaise, a jesuit, who for the long term of thirty-four years had the keeping of this monarch's conscience.

The grandest monument on the ground is the sepulchre of the family of Greffühl; it is a chapel of Gothic architecture, situate on the north side, and near a beautiful range of sycamores. In different walks you perceive the tombs of Chenier—of Fourcroy—of Gretry—of Mademoiselle Contat—of Mad. Raucour (the actress, who was lately refused a grave by the curate of St. Roche.)

Towards the east is a small platform, formerly called "The Belvidere;" it is a shady square, formed by eight linden trees; in the midst of the tombs occupying the space is a fine monument to Mestrezat, the Genevan pastor; and near it a plain flat stone covers the remains of Madame Cottin. From this place is also a fine view of the capital. The protestants have selected the ground about here for their burial place.

A little to the south of this is the grave of Labedoyere, inclosed with stakes, nearly as rough as when cut from the hedge. Roses and mignonette grow profusely in the borders, and in the middle of a little grass plot is a myrtle in full blossom, placed there, no doubt, by his disconsolate widow, as an emblem of her unfading love. A wooden cross, painted black, stands within the inclosure; which is shaded by a weeping willow. No monument or stone marks the spot where his remains lie; but some one has scratched upon the wooden cross—"*Honneur aux braves.*"

North-east of this, at the farthest extremity from the entrance, is the tomb of the gallant Ney. It is a small elegant cenotaph of white stone, standing in a square inclosure, surrounded by a neat wooden railing, painted olive-green; a weeping willow hangs over it, and roses are planted within the space.

In this asylum of death all ages and conditions are united; the Russian is laid by the side of the Spaniard: the Protestant and the Jew not far from the Catholic.—Here men of the most opposite opinions meet at last in

the wretch who can impiously disturb the precious dust of his parents, or unfeelingly pass their graves without a tear or a sigh.

Many Roman antiquities, consisting of tessellated pavements, urns, coins, &c. have at different times been found, several feet beneath the present surface of the streets. The London Stone, in Cannon-street, is considered by most antiquaries as part of a Roman milliare. Dr. Stukeley, in his *Itinerarium Curiosum*, has given a plan of Londinium, shewing the extent and form of the station, with the number of gates in the walls, and the military roads that branched off from it.

When the Roman forces withdrew from Britain, London became again a British town, and is mentioned in the Saxon Chronicle as the place to which, in 457, the Britons fled, on their defeat by the Saxons under Hengist, who, about twenty years afterwards, obtained possession of this city; but on his death in 498, it was retaken by Ambrosius, and retained by the Britons during a considerable part of the next century. On the conversion of the east Saxons to Christianity, London was nominated as the bishop's see; and Melitus was appointed the first Bishop, in the year 604. In 610, a church was erected on the site of the present cathedral of St. Paul's. London was, according to Bede, a mart town then of many nations that resorted thither by sea and land. In 764, 798, and 801, it suffered extensively by fires. On the union of the Saxon kingdoms under Egbert, London, though not the royal residence or seat of government, was advancing in importance, a witenagemote having been held here in 833, to consult on the means of repelling the Danes, by whom London was about that time repeatedly pillaged, and nearly destroyed. It was afterwards constituted, by Alfred, the capital of England. In 925, king Athelstan had a palace here. The city increased in importance during the succeeding reigns.

The earliest map of the metropolis is one which shews its state in the time of queen Elizabeth, from which it appears that the greater part was contained within the walls; and even in these narrow limits there were many gardens, which have since been converted into lanes, courts and alleys.

The greatest extent of London is from west to east. Without including Knightsbridge, Kensington, or Chel-

sea, its length, from Hyde Park corner to Poplar, is nearly seven miles ; its breadth varies considerably, but it is nearly five miles from Newington Butts to Islington. The circumference of the whole, allowing for various inequalities in the extension of streets, &c. at the extremities, cannot be less than 30 miles. The included area is 11,520 square acres, of which the river occupies 1120, leaving 10,400 square acres as the space occupied by the buildings and streets.

London is not so populous, with reference to its extent, as some other cities. This difference is owing to the width of the streets, particularly in the more modern districts, the moderate height of the houses, and the convenient space usually enjoyed by the inhabitants in their rooms. Several accounts of the population have been taken by public authority, at different periods, the results of which, as exhibited in the following table, shew the increase of the population of the metropolis from 1700 to 1821, and also the relative numbers of the inhabitants of its various divisions. In this calculation, one twenty-fifth part is added for occasional visitants, sailors, &c. on account of the immense annual arrivals of shipping. The cause of the great diminution in the number of the inhabitants of the ancient city, or London within the walls, is the removal of the residences of its commercial inhabitants to other districts, for the purpose of using their houses as warehouses, shops and offices, and for the sake of inhabiting more commodious and healthy dwellings. These circumstances continually operating, occasion the apparent disproportions observable in the table.

	1700	1750	1801	1821
London within the walls	139,300	87,000	78,000	58,400
Without the walls	69,000	57,300	56,300	72,000
Westminster	130,000	152,000	165,000	189,400
Out parishes within the bills of mortality	326,900	357,600	477,700	730,700
Parishes not within the bills of mortality	9,150	22,350	123,000	224,300
Total	674,350	676,250	900,000	974,800

Intimately connected with the population, is the an-

nual mortality, and the diseases of London. The former is greatly diminished since 1760, when it was calculated at 1 in 25; it is now about 1 in 38.

It is calculated that London contains 122 churches of the established religion, or church of England; 120 chapels of ease, in parishes where the population is too great for their respective churches; 30 churches and chapels belonging to foreign Christians; 6 synagogues of the Jews; and about 200 meeting houses of the different denominations of English Protestant dissenters and English Roman Catholics.

We shall not attempt any farther general description of this important City, confining ourselves to brief notices of the Tower, British Museum, and Westminster Abbey.

TOWER OF LONDON.—William the Conqueror, in 1066, erected a tower or fortress, for the purpose of intimidating the citizens. About 12 years afterwards, he seems either to have enlarged that edifice, or erected another on its site. This building is now called the White Tower, and is situated near the centre of the present Tower of London. The other buildings and fortifications have been erected at different periods. The whole is surrounded by a ditch, and divided from the river by a wharf, on which is a platform, mounted with 61 pieces of cannon. The tower was inhabited as a palace by several English sovereigns, till the reign of queen Elizabeth; since which period it has been chiefly used as a state prison and depository for arms, records, and property belonging to the crown. It contains the ordnance office, the record office, the jewel office, the horse armory, the Spanish armory, the grand store house, the small armory, barracks for the garrison, &c. The horse armory contains effigies of most of the Kings of England since the conquest, mounted on horseback, and chiefly equipped in ancient armory. The small armory, one of the finest rooms of its kind in Europe, contains complete stands of arms for upwards of 100,000 men, arranged in a regular and systematic manner; besides many trophies, and other curiosities. Underneath this armory is another very noble room, belonging to the royal train of artillery, where many ancient and beauti-

ful pieces of cannon are preserved. The Spanish armoury contains the trophies of the celebrated victory over the Spanish armada. In a yard to the right of the western entrance, is the royal menagerie. The new mint is a beautiful structure, at the north-east corner of Tower-hill, built under the direction of Mr. Smirke. It contains extensive establishments for the business of the coinage, which has been removed from the tower.

It would swell this article beyond all due bounds, to give a description of all the curiosities in this ancient repository of the relics of royal magnificence. We can therefore only give a very brief sketch of them. About 20 yards east of the grand store room, the royal jewels are deposited in a dark strong stone room; viz. 1. The imperial crown used at the coronation of the kings, made of gold and enriched with diamonds, rubies, emeralds, sapphires, and pearls: the cap within is of purple velvet, lined with taffety and turned up with ermine. 2. The golden globe, put into the King's right hand before he is crowned, enriched with precious stones. 3. The golden sceptre, with its cross upon a large amethyst set round with diamonds. 4. The sceptre and dove perched upon a Jerusalem cross, enriched with diamonds, &c. 5. St. Edward's staff, four feet seven inches and a half long, and three and three-quarters in circumference, all of beaten gold, which is carried before the King at his coronation. 6. The crown of state, worn by the king in parliament, in which is a large emerald, seven inches round; a pearl reckoned the finest in the world, and a ruby of inestimable value. 7. The prince of Wales's crown. 8. The crown, globe, and sceptre of queen Mary II. with the diadem she wore at her coronation. 9. An ivory sceptre garnished with gold, with a dove on the top, of gold enamelled with white; made for King James II's queen. 10. The Curtana, or sword of mercy, with a blade thirty two inches long, and near two broad without a point; which is carried before the king at his coronation, between the two swords of justice. 11. The golden spurs, and armillas, or bracelets for the wrists. 12. The ampulla, or golden eagle, which holds the golden oil, with which the monarchs are anointed, and the golden spoon into which it is poured.

13. A salt cellar of gold, in the form of the square White Tower, of the most exquisite workmanship. All these are very ancient, and are used only at coronations. 14. A silver font, double gilt, elegantly wrought, in which the royal family are baptized. 15. A large silver fountain presented to King Charles II. by the town of Plymouth; besides all the crown jewels, worn by the princes, and much ancient plate. The public records are also kept in an office, which is open for inspection, from seven to one, nine months in the year, and from eight to one in winter.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM is the grand national depository of antiquities, sculpture, natural and artificial curiosities, scientific collections, manuscripts, and printed books. It was established by act of parliament in 1753, in consequence of the will of Sir Hans Sloane, who bequeathed his museum to the nation, on condition of paying £20,000 to his executors, and purchasing a proper house for its reception. Parliament have added many splendid collections; and the liberality of various societies and individuals has augmented this national treasure to an astonishing magnitude.

It is a stately edifice, in the French style of Louis XIV, and on the plan of the Thuilleries. The architect was Peter Paget, who was sent from Paris by Ralph, first duke of Montague, for the sole purpose of constructing this splendid mansion, which is perhaps better calculated for its present purpose, than for a private residence.

"A great entertainment to me, (says the entertaining author of *Letters from Albion*) is the cabinet of natural and artificial curiosities in Bloomsbury-square, called the British Museum. If you are desirous of seeing the motley habit of his Otaheitan majesty, or the horrid hawk-bill mask of a Sandwich-Island warrior, you must come hither. But more interesting is the collection of minerals and birds, though the latter are for the most part badly preserved. On the ground floor there is a valuable treasure of antiques; among which is an excellent vase of Grecian marble, 3 feet high, with ten bacchantes in basso-relievo of finished workmanship; a beautiful Fortune with a cornucopia filled with grapes; a head of Faustina with the softest features; a bust of young Marcellus with the

interesting physiognomy; a bust of a Grecian lady with a face fascinating in the highest degree: the bust of Alexander, as it is commonly called, an immense bas-relief with coloured hieroglyphics, in which he is represented as a young man; and the celebrated Rosetta stone, a tablet taken from the French at the surrender of Alexandria, containing a triangular decree of the Egyptian Ptolemy the Fifth.

A colossal ram's head, which M. Jomard, president of the Institut d'Egypte, regretted so much, when he was in England with me of the antiquities of that distant country, is also here. A joint of that animal would have been a great curiosity to the gentlemen of Bloomsbury square.

There is yet a fist of red and white speckled granite, which reached up to the middle of my body. As my right hand, when placed with its knuckles upwards, measured about thirty times in the length of my body, I drew a conclusion that the colossus, whose limb the fist was, must have measured seventy feet.

Their gigantic Venus had nothing to attract me, nor of her correct proportions. Fancy to yourself a woman by two heads taller than yourself, with arms as long as your thigh, and tell me whether you would call her a goddess of love. You might as well call Goliath a beauty.

They have also a valuable collection of coins, but forbore shewing them for fear of being robbed. This reminded me of our Lithuanian boors, who refused their work, alleging to have a charter of exemption, but would lay it before government till they were fired from their entrenchments."

WESTMINSTER ABBEY.—The first monastic institution here was a priory; but Offa changed it, in 785, into an abbey; and the abbots arose, in the course of a thousand years, to distinction. William the Conqueror, in 1066, was the first sovereign on record who was crowned here. To Edward the Confessor this abbey is principally indebted for its celebrity and splendour. In the reign of Henry III. the greater part of the present abbey was re-built, in the lofty, elegant style by which it is chiefly characterised. In 1540, this Abbey was, by

letters patent of Henry VIII, constituted a Cathedral. The monastery was restored by Mary, who succeeded Henry VIII. On the 21st of May 1560, the monks were again displaced, and the church rendered conformable on a similar basis to that which had been established by Henry VIII.

The present Abbey church consists of a nave and side aisles, separated by ranges of lofty, slender clustered columns, supporting the roof, which is raised to a great elevation. The length of the whole edifice with the walls, is 360 feet; the breadth of the nave and aisles 50 feet; and the length of the cross or transept 195 feet. On entering the great western door, the body of the church presents an impressive appearance; its height, loftiness, and elegance are its distinguishing features, but these are much obscured by the numerous monuments which fill up the open spaces and cover the walls. Very little has been done to the exterior of Westminster church, from the time of Henry VII. to that of George II. when many parts of it were coated with stone and otherwise repaired, at the public expence. Previous to this, the two towers at the west end were completed by designs by Sir Christopher Wren, as they now appear. The choir of the church, in the form of a semi octagon, was formerly surrounded by eight chapels; they are now reduced to seven; and that which was the central chapel, now forms the porch of that of Henry VII. In the south transept, called the poet's corner, there are several interesting memorials of men whose genius and talents in science, literature, and the arts, entitle them to our durable recollection of posterity. In other parts of the church there are also monuments to the memory of several distinguished heroes and statesmen. The magnificent chapel of Henry VII. is a most curious specimen of ecclesiastical architecture. It was built on the site of one formerly appropriated to the service of the Virgin Mary, at the expence of the monarch, and founded by him on the 24th of January 1502—3. The chief object within the chapel is the tomb of the founder, inclosed by a screen of gilt brass, which is said to have been executed by Torregiano of Florence, the rival of Michael Angelo.

The ashes of the jealous and vindictive Elizabeth here rest near those of her hapless victim, Mary Stuart; and a few feet of earth separate the once formidable political antagonists, William Pitt and Charles James Fox. The bronze figure of Margaret Tudor, mother of Henry VII, is one of the finest pieces of casting in the whole building. Beneath this chapel is the vault prepared on the death of Caroline, consort of George II. in 1737, which contains the remains of several members of the present reigning family. The whole exterior of this chapel has been cased with Bath stone; and all the rich and elaborate sculpture of the canopies, pedestals, buttresses, windows, &c. have been carefully restored, in imitation of the original building. The ancient chapter-house, which is of an octagonal form, with the roof supported by a branching central column, was erected in 1250, by Henry III.

WESTMINSTER HALL—The ancient residence of the Kings of England, was erected by William Rufus, or William II, about 1097, as an appendage to the old palace, or a part of a new project. Three centuries after its construction, it was altered by Richard II. Here, in separate chambers, both Houses of Parliament hold their meetings, and the Hall itself is used as the place of inquiry, before the house of peers, into the conduct of persons impeached by the House of Commons, and on other occasions of the like nature.

Westminster may be generally regarded as a part of the British metropolis. This city originated in a monastery, which was founded by Sebert, King of Essex, about 610, on a tract of land called Thorney island, on the north bank of the river Thames. Although it be now closely united and connected with London, it was formerly distinct and distant from it: Even as late as the reign of Queen Elizabeth, nearly the whole space from Temple-bar to the western end of Parliament-street; also Covent Garden, Piccadilly, and even Oxford Road, were fields.

ANTIQUITIES OF WILTSHIRE.

FOR the following obliging communication, the Editor is indebted to his Friend and Relative, JOHN FAGGUSON HULBERT, Esq. of Melksham, county of Wilts. - It is presented to the public in the exact form it was received; and from the variety of curious and interesting matter comprised in its contents, we are convinced, its length will not be considered a disadvantage to the reader.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Pursuant to the request you made, when in your company, I visited some of the Antiquities and Beauties of Shropshire: a county, the remembrance of which will ever awaken pleasurable emotions in my mind—it is my present intention to devote a few pages to noticing some of the scenes of my native county—scenes which I have visited and pondered over with delight and astonishment, even in the early years of childhood; and which continue to afford the same pleasure, now arrived at manhood, and verging on the meridian of life.

Few counties of this Island, if any, present more interesting objects to remind us of the days that are gone by, or that furnish memorials of its inhabitants in those remote ages, of which historical records have left us in perplexing uncertainty, bewildering, and giving rise to a multitude of unsatisfactory conjectures: So that whilst looking around on these remains, and taking a comparative view of the perishable state of all things of human origin or contrivance, contrasting them with the beauties of nature, and the admirable and durable workmanship of Nature's God, as exemplified in the splendour of the heavens; the diversified scenes on the surface of the globe we inhabit; the vivacity and varied yet regular appearances of the different classes of animated beings, and the unrivalled beauty of many of the vegetable tribes and mineral productions—we are struck with the inferiority, and cannot but regret our present imperfect state of knowledge; at the same time we are impelled to look forward with pleasing anticipation or hope, to a future enjoyment of superior powers, when

we shall become the heirs of immortality, and shall be enabled to contemplate the wonders of Creative Wisdom displayed in the immensity of the universe, throughout the endless ages of eternity.*

To accord with the arrangement you have adopted, I shall, in the ensuing observations enter upon a consideration of a few of the *ANTIQUITIES*, and in a future letter attempt a brief description of the *BEAUTIES* of *WILTSHIRE*, premising, that mine will be only a partial survey of either, there being many of each of the above classes, as yet unvisited by me, no less capable of exciting admiration, and equally deserving notice in any extended description or topographical survey of the county.

SECTION I.

The numerous remains of Antiquity to be met with in several parts of this county, the workmanship of individuals, all other traces of whose existence are, as it were, lost to those who now inhabit the same portion of this globe on which they dwelt; have, for many ages past, engaged the attention, and employed the pens of men eminent for the extent of their knowledge, for their depth of research, and patient investigation. The enumeration of their names and writings would be a task far beyond the range of my present knowledge or purpose, I shall therefore commence my descriptions.

When crossing that extensive tract of land, the *Plain*, which occupies so large a portion of Wiltshire, and part of the adjoining counties of Hants and Dorset; in several parts thereof, are to be seen circular eminences of earth, of different sizes and elevation, which are denominated *Barrows*. These are evidently of remote origin, having, for many ages past, been looked upon as monuments of antiquity, and as forming the burial places of some of the warriors or sages of an early period. These are to be met with in other parts of the kingdom, and if I recollect rightly, have been seen by myself in the distantly situated counties of Cornwall and Northumberland; as also, in the vicinity of the *Caer Caradoc* and

* Vide Preface to the *Museum Asianum*.

they have not been previously inspected, and their contents removed—independent of the bones of the deceased, there have generally been found several relics as urns, rings, beads, and other ornaments. In Sir R. C. Hoare's History of Ancient Wiltshire, the subject is amply illustrated by several well executed and characteristic engravings, accompanied by descriptions from the pen of that celebrated and classical author—(I speak from recollection, as I have not perused the work for these few years past, and have not a copy for reference.)

A few miles from Marlborough, on the side of the road leading from London to Bath, is situated the largest of these Tumuli in this island, called *Tisbury Hill*. According to Dr. Stukely "it measures 1680 feet in circumference, or 560 feet in diameter at the base; and at the summit, which is 170 feet in perpendicular height, it is 315 feet in circumference, or 105 feet in diameter." Passing along the road a few years since, I left my horse at a neighbouring inn, and having walked round the Tumulus, ascended to the summit. Whilst contemplating the surrounding scene, and reverting in idea to the ages that had passed away, since the era in which this durable monument had been erected; I fancied to myself the appearance of the spirit of the hero (whose remains had long since mouldered to ashes, and were commingled with the earth beneath my feet; but whose name, "the ample page" of history, "rich with the spoils of time, had ne'er unroll'd," to the inspection of the ardent enquirer into the mysterious secrets of antiquity)—as rising to address me; and the following lines were consequently hastily written upon the spot, which I quitted with some degree of reluctance, and have not since revisited—

Enquiring mortal! wouldst thou ask my name!
Who with presumptuous foot hast dared to tread,
On this memorial of the illustrious dead—
Raised, by my followers, on the field of fame!
Know—that in ages past, I ruled this land,
My deeds were honoured, and my will obeyed!
In peace, the sceptre, with respect, I swayed:
In war, was foremost of the conquering band!
At length, advanced in years, I met the foe.

Who sought to drive me from my realms away :
And on these plains I fought, and won the day ;
But fell, victorious !—Seek no more to know—
'Tis wrapt in silence, veiled by deepest night !
He said—and quickly vanished from my sight.

In further illustration of this subject, I will select the following passage from a topographical description of Wiltshire, by that distinguished author, Mr. Britton, whose excellent works have so largely contributed to the graphic illustration of his native county.

" In the angle between the Roman road, and the modern Blandford road, which unite near Woodyates Inn, is a group of several barrows. So much, indeed, did their " external variety and beauty of construction," excite the curiosity of Sir Richard Hoare, that he directed the whole of them to be opened, and discovered many interesting remains of ancient art. Some of the largest and most beautiful sepulchral Urns hitherto dug up, and a number of curious utensils and ornaments rewarded the zeal and exertions of Sir Richard, and his party, in their examination of these tumuli. In a fine bell shaped barrow, at the depth of eighteen inches were found two skeletons, lying north east and south west, and apparently placed one above the other. underneath these, eleven feet deeper, and covered over with a considerable quantity of flints, lay another skeleton of very large proportions, having both legs drawn up according to the most ancient and primitive custom.—Near its side was deposited a brazen dagger, that had been gilt, and protected by a wooden scabbard, some part of which still adhered to it, as well as a small ornament of jet, having two holes in it for suspension. Close to the thigh bone, was another ornament of jet, resembling a pulley, four very perfect arrow heads of flint, and a brass pin ; and at the feet, was a hollow vessel, probably the drinking cup of the deceased hero."

" During the opening of this barrow, a dreadful storm of thunder and lightning came on, which forced Sir Richard Hoare, and his party, to seek refuge in the excavated tumulus. The incident gave occasion to the following beautiful and descriptive lines, from the pen

o Rev. W. L. Bowles, who happened to attend the
ations on that day.

" Let me, let me, sleep again,"
Thus me thought in feeble strain,
'Plain'd from his disturbed bed,
The spirit of the mighty dead.
" O'er my mouldered ashes cold,
Many a century slow hath roll'd ;
Many a race hath disappeared,
Since my giant form I reared ;
Since my flinted arrow flew,
Since my battle horn I blew ;
Since my brazen dagger's pride
Glittered on my warlike side,
Which, transported o'er the wave,
Kings of distant ocean gave.
Ne'er hath glared the eye of day
My death bed secrets to betray,
Since, with muttered Celtic rhyme
The white haired Druid bard sublime,
'Mid the stillness of the night,
Waked the sad and solemn rite,
The rite of death, and o'er my bones
Were piled the monumental stones."
Passing near the hallow'd ground,
The Roman gazed upon the mound,
And murmured with a secret sigh,
" There in dust the mighty lie."
E'en while his heart with conquest glowed,
While the high raised flinty road
Echoed to the prancing hoof,
And golden eagles flamed aloof ;
And flashing to the orient light,
His bannered legions glittered bright ;
The Victor of the world confessed
A dark awe shivering at his breast.
" Shall the sons of distant days,
Unpunished on my relics gaze?"
Hark! HÆSUS rushes from on high,
Vindictive thunder rocks the sky,
See TARANIS descends to save
The hero's violated grave,

And shakes beneath the lightning's glare,
 The sulphur from his blazing hair.
 Hence! yet tho' my grave ye spoil—
 Dark oblivion marks your toil.
 Deep the clouds of ages roll,
 History drops her mould'ring scroll,
 And never shall reveal the name
 Of him, who scorns her transient fame."

Many other barrows have, at different times been inspected in various parts of this county, and the contents have been found, with few exceptions, of like nature with those described above. In the neighbourhood of Warminster, a large one denominated King Barrow, on account of its size, as it extends 206 feet in length, 56 in breadth, and from 15 to 16 in height, was opened in the year 1800, by the late Mr. Cunnington, of Heytesbury, "when the skeleton of a horse, and three skeletons of human beings, were discovered together, with some pieces of stag's horns, boar's tusks, and rude pottery; also, a single edged iron sword, about eighteen inches in length, and two in breadth, which lay on the thigh of one of the skeletons."

Sir Richard Hoare has since opened this barrow in the year, 1809, but without discovering any other interment, which is supposed to have been distinct from that of the skeletons just mentioned.

A short distance from Tilbury Hill, is situated the village of AVEBURY, or ABURY, in the midst of the remains of an immense Temple, which for magnificence and extent is supposed to have far exceeded the more celebrated Temple of Stonehenge. Surrounded by many tumuli, and being near the intersection of some ancient roads, it has, in all probability, been of great consequence, and possessed a character which may not, inappropriately, be denominated metropolitan, when viewed comparatively with other similar structures of inferior importance. Its great extent even within recorded data, has rendered it an object of attraction to the antiquarian and traveller; and many interesting descriptions and conjectures have been published respecting its former and present state, its origin and design. Upon each of these subjects I shall bring forward a few observations.

Previous to the ravages which, from time to time, have been committed on this great Temple, it must have presented a most commanding appearance, calculated to impress the mind with sentiments of wonder and astonishment, in veneration of those powers which were employed in its construction. The immense bulk and weight of the respective stones, would impart the idea of a superiority of mechanical skill in arranging them in their several situations. "A considerable area of ground being encompassed by a continued series of large upright stones consisting of one hundred in number. These stones were placed at the distance of 27 feet from each other, and usually measured from 15 to 17 feet in height, and about 40 feet in circumference. Within the area of this circle, the diameter of which was about 1400 feet were two double circles, each consisting of two concentric circles, and comprising the same number of stones, and displaying the same manner of arrangement. Both of the exterior circles were about 466 feet in diameter, formed by 30 stones of similar dimensions, and equally distant from each other as in the large enclosing circle. The inner ones consisted of 12 stones of like proportions, and had like intervening spaces: and in the diameter of their area was 186 feet." "There were two entrances into the grand circle, one from the south-east and the other from the south-west. These were approached by two avenues, or double rows of upright stones extending a mile in length, and each formed by 100 stones placed at nearly equal intervals." "At the extremity of one of these avenues, that in the south east direction, was a double concentric circle of smaller dimensions than those already mentioned; the other avenue terminated in a single large stone, adjacent to which were situated several large barrows." Such is an abridged description given by a celebrated antiquary, and the avenues he has mentioned leading to the grand circle composed the *Serpent* to be presently described. Had such a monument been suffered to have remained entire, its magnitude would have attracted the attention, and have excited the admiration and astonishment of the present race of men, rendering many of the celebrated remains of antiquity insignificant in the comparison. But the devastating hand of time, aided by the

same spirit which influenced the Turks in their destruction of the architectural beauties and sublimities of Athens, has consumed by far the largest portion of this interesting and venerable monument of antiquity. "It originally consisted of 650 stones, but most of these, however, have been broken to pieces by means of fire and manual labour, and the dissevered fragments appropriated to the erection of walls and houses, and the formation of roads. In 1722 only 40 remained of the great circle, of which number 17 were standing; but in 1802 they were reduced to 18. In 1716 the double concentric circles were nearly entire, but in 1723 eight stones only remained of the northern circle, and fourteen of the southern. Of the south-western avenue which in 1722 consisted of numerous stones, two only remain; but of the south-eastern avenue, which at the same period had seventy-two stones standing, ten or twelve are yet in existence."

The *origin* of this Temple, like that of several other monuments of past ages, especially those of a corresponding description, is veiled in great obscurity, the overwhelming hand of oblivion, has obliterated all records of the period when, or by whom it was erected; and if any traditionary accounts existed, they have been long since forgotten and "buried mid' the wreck of things that were". Generation, has succeeded generation, and each in its succession, has given some conjectural opinions, by the way of apparently concealing the want of a solid foundation to the conjectures of the past; and thus no real or authenticated record has been preserved, at all satisfactory to the generality of enquirers at the present day. To this part of the subject I shall presently revert, and adduce some observations of a novel and ingenious nature from a recent publication.

The *design* of this stupendous structure, to whatever period conjecture or theory may incline those of the present day to attribute its origin, appears to have been for the performance of some solemn or important purpose, either for the assembling of some national council for political affairs, or for the observance of religious ceremonies and duties, as those of sacrifice to

the Supreme Being or to the supposed deities of the aborigines of this island previous to the introduction of christianity: and probably from its extent like the cathedrals of a later period, was considered as exercising a degree of supremacy over the smaller Temples, erected in other parts of the surrounding country.

To return again to the subject of its origin. The most recent opinion I have seen advanced upon this point, is that of its being an antediluvian construction, and executed by the more immediate descendants of our great progenitor Adam. This opinion, which is supported by much ingenuity of argument, is founded upon the circumstance of the Temple in question, being accompanied by avenues diverging in opposite directions from the grand or outer circle of the Temple, forming in the whole, an extent of upwards of two miles: their course from one extremity to the other, bending in a serpentine direction. These avenues have been denominated the *Serpent*, from time immemorial: the extreme points forming the head and tail, whilst the situation of the Temple is as it were about the centre of the body or upon the back. But here an extract or two from the author of the said opinion may be introduced as an illustration of this idea, and will certainly convey a degree of interest to the reader who may feel a desire of learning the peculiar sentiments advanced upon this abstruse subject.

“The magnitude of so immense an undertaking cannot but strike the observer with astonishment, and he will be lost in the contemplation of a motive which could have led to the erection of it. If the workmanship evinced in Stonehenge will set all his researches at defiance, in endeavouring to find out a people who are at all likely to be the authors of it, the motive which can have led to so enormous a work as the *Serpent* and Temple at Abury will be still more embarrassing. In vain will he go back step by step in inquiry to the time even of the Deluge; for the higher he advances the less probability is there of his having found out the authors of it. Modern nations, under the improvement of arts, might perhaps, so far as labour is concerned, embark in such an undertaking with success, but to Saxons, Belgæ,

Bonus, it certainly is an insuperable fact, each difficulty in their way to leads to effect the workmanship of Summerson and it is more in an understanding like the Serpent and Temple at Abury, as to deter every one from the pursuit who requires a *reasonable* evidence. It is still to be seen and supposed the few words of Grecian mythology, when applied to those of various countries, to be enlarged to the erection of serpentine temples is perhaps as extraordinary as it can be well be imagined. To suppose the serpent was an object of worship, we find the likeness of this was not only reduced to the necessity of serving both its various pre-eminent qualities as its fierceness, its sagacity, the fascinating property of its eye, for consequences which are certainly the result of rational construction. And can we in reason attribute any consideration as those to the first founders of nations after the Flood?

The serpent being what it never but have existed in Adam to permeate a knowledge of the origin of sin, and of the promise of redemption; and that, under the want of written records, it was in all the near probability carried into effect in the erection of a serpentine temple, that the temple be entirely adequate to so momentous an end. That Adam, who recognized his parent in God himself, who had enjoyed the unaltered happiness of his mighty father, but who for transgression was also made to feel the direful effects of Divine wrath, could bear his existence without communicating to his afflicted posterity the knowledge of Redemption, is beyond all reason to suppose. And can we imagine so significant an act in Adam would remain without imitation on the part of some of those who had known him, or on that of others who had heard of him from them — To apprehend the existence of numerous serpentine temples in the world prior to the flood, is certainly no more than reasonable; nor is it less so to infer the continuance of some of them afterwards, particularly that of our own country, judging even from fact on the principle of analogy, in the continuance of the cave at Kirkdale, on the present surface of the earth. There is in reality nothing to oppose to the existence of Abury and Stonehenge as antediluvian temples, but prepossession arising out of an erroneous train of judgment.

"Of Adam, it is said, that he was *driven* out of the Garden of Eden. Is this a place then in the neighbourhood of which he could be reasonably expected to abide? Surely he would rather go to the farthest extremity of the earth, and in this our country, (then a part of the the Continent,) leave to his posterity a remembrance of his great and sore experience in the existence of evil, and the attendant promise of an all-merciful Creator."

"To attribute the erection of the Serpent and Temple at Abury to any people but the Antediluvians, appears to me, from every thing which I can bring together on the subject, a most gross error.

"And have we, indeed, in this our little island, so mighty a testimony to the unerring word of God, even from the beginning of time—a testimony far more ancient than the Bible itself! Is there any thing in existence commensurate with so truly wonderful and glorious a fact? Oh, unthinking Englishmen! direct your eyes throughout the habitable globe, and what part of it is there in which the name of England is not known? Look at the amazing effects arising out of the Bible Societies, of the Missionaries, and of the British and Foreign School Society, and where is the Nation of the earth that is now to be compared to England—to England, I say as a Christian—for in no other respect, though she has been till of late permitted to hold the absolute dominion of the greater half of the terrestrial globe, does she stand in so exalted a station, and on so permanent a basis. Do not then my countrymen, let these testimonies to your unparralleled eminence, even from the beginning of time, stand unprotected. Oh! let not the rude and ignorant demolish what is still left of these venerable piles—relics of antiquity."

* The above extracts are from a Pamphlet entitled *An Illustration of Stonehenge and Abury*, in the County of Wilts, pointing out their *origin* and *character* through considerations hitherto unnoticed." By Mr. I. Browne, of Amesbury, who has announced the publication by Subscription of a larger work, (in 1 vol. 8s. 6d.) of "Remarks on Stonehenge and Abury," &c.

SECTION II—STONEHENGE.

In travelling over that extensive district of Wiltshire, known by the name of 'Salisbury Plain,' after a long succession of hill and dale, covered with a soft mantle of nature's richest verdure, from which numerous flocks of sheep derive their sustenance; interspersed with which, however, there are in some directions for a considerable extent, repeated proofs of the progress of agriculture; at one point where a more ample expanse is presented to the eye, an object appears conspicuous, and claims the attention of the traveller, especially if he happens to be a stranger to this part of the country.—This object is the far-famed Stonehenge! venerable to the lover of history and of the remains of antiquity; a source of contemplative feeling to the mind enriched with the acquisitions of scientific knowledge, and of delight to him whose soul is enraptured by the inspirations of the muse of poetry or romance.

The human mind, in an uncultivated state, is ever prone to attribute to supernatural agency, whatever partakes of the marvellous or wonderful. Hence, it is not surprising that so interesting a relique of those times of which we have no existing record, as concerns the precise period when, or by whom it was erected, should, in the uninformed ideas of the peasant be ascribed to the 'author of all evil:' such an opinion has been asserted to the writer of these observations, by some of the surrounding peasantry, and such an impression was evidently actuating the minds of many at some distant period, by the appellations given to different things and places, as exemplified in *The Devil's Stepping Stones*, *The Devil's Elbow Chair*, *The Devil's Dyke*, *Goblin's Pit*, &c.

The view of Stonehenge generally imparts to the mind a feeling of awe and veneration, especially when it is seen for the first time. But such an impression does not alike pervade the thinking faculty of all who approach to this celebrated spot; for those persons who are not delighted by the beauties or sublimities of na-

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ture or art, cannot regard it otherwise than as an object of curiosity to the idle ; or a rude, unmeaning heap of enormous stones, erect or prostrate on the ground, or heaped one upon the other, in a strangely confused manner —whereas the scientific or contemplative traveller, upon drawing near, and deliberately inspecting the same, becomes at once convinced, by the sure characteristics of regularity and design, that it must have been the workmanship of men of no small acquaintance with the arts, or the leading principles of mechanical science. The enormous bulk of the stones which are lying on the ground, or which remain upright, and also of some placed horizontally on the summit of others, clearly evince the employment of considerable power, assisted by ingenuity of contrivance, and matured by the advancement of art, to convey the materials from a distance, as must evidently have been the case, to this, the peculiar spot of their destination.

The arrangement, which, from the present situation of the remaining stones, appears to have been adopted, is that of two circles, the one within the other, surrounding two curved or elliptical rows of stones. Upon the outer circle were placed in a continued range, horizontal stones or imposts, and similar ones were also placed upon the inner or elliptical row. To these supporting stones, and the stones upon their summits, the name of *trilithons* have been given, and some of these are remaining in a perfect state : they are attached in a regular manner, (as is evident from those which are fallen) by projecting points of the upright or perpendicular stones received within corresponding depressions or hollows in those which are horizontal, so as to constitute a series of mortises and tenons. But as it would be difficult for me to compress within a small compass, an accurate account, without the aid of some graphic design, or plan, to illustrate the same, especially as I cannot have immediate reference to the subject itself, I shall offer to the reader an abridgment of the excellent description afforded by Mr. Britton in his "Original Delineations of Wiltshire," from which work the title *Stonehenge*, in Rees's Cyclopædia is principally derived.

"The whole is surrounded by a ditch and vallum of earth. The vallum does not exceed fifteen feet in height and is interior to the ditch. Through this line of circumvallation there appears to be three entrances, but Sir Richard Hoare thinks that one of them only originally belonged to the work. This is placed on the north-east side, and is decidedly marked by a bank and ditch, called the *Avenue*, which leads directly from it. Approaching Stonehenge by this avenue, the attention is first attracted by an immense rude stone, which is in a leaning position, and measures about sixteen feet in height. Just within the entrance through the vallum, is another stone which lies prostrate on the ground. In length it measures twenty-one feet two inches, of which three-feet six inches appear to have been formerly underground when it stood upright. Its distance from the stone last mentioned is exactly one hundred feet, and it is nearly equally distant from the outside of the outermost circle of the monument. The uprights in this circle differ from each other in their forms and sizes: but their general height is from thirteen to fifteen feet, and their circumference nearly eighteen feet. The space between them also varies a little: that between the entrance stones is five feet, being somewhat wider than in the others. The circumference of this circle is about three hundred feet, and the number of upright stones it originally contained is stated at thirty, of which seventeen are still standing; but there are no more now than six imposts. At the distance of eight feet three inches from this outer circle, is an interior one, which it appears consisted in its original state of forty upright stones; the stones of this circle are much smaller, and more irregular in their shapes, than those of the outermost, and also differ from them in species. The number standing is only eight, but there are remains of twelve others lying on the ground.

"Within the circles just described, are arranged the two elliptical rows of stones, the outermost of which constitute the grandest portion of Stonehenge. This is not a perfect ellipse, but rather two thirds of that figure being open at one end. It was formed by five distinct pairs of *trilithons*. The largest trilithon was placed in

the centre opposite to the entrance, and measured, when standing, exclusive of the impost twenty-one feet six inches in height: that next it on each side was about seventeen feet two inches; but the extremes were not more than sixteen feet three inches.

"The interior oval consisted of nineteen uprights without imposts; these stones are taller, and better shaped than in the corresponding circle, and incline to a pyramidal form." "The *Altar stone*, as it is usually called, occupies the interior of this oval, and may be regarded as the key-stone of the whole temple. It measures fifteen feet in length. Two other stones belonging to this monument remain to be noticed, these are situated close to the vallum, and within it; one on the south-side, and the other on the north west; the former measures nine feet in height; but the latter is not more than four feet high, and both are rude and unbewn.—The diameter of the whole area within the vallum, is about three hundred feet.

The surrounding *Plain*, is covered with a profusion of barrows, unparalleled in any spot of similar extent in England, and probably in the world; and independent of these, two other objects are worthy of observation; namely the *Avenue* before mentioned, consisting of a narrow strip of raised ground bounded on each side by a slight bank of earth, and extending to the distance of five hundred and ninety four yards, at which spot it divides into two branches which are continued some way forwards; and the *Cursus*, so named from its corresponding with the race ground, or chariot drive of the Romans. It is a flat tract of land, bounded by two parallel banks and ditches, and is situated about half a mile to the north of the temple: it measures, one mile five furlongs, and one hundred and seventy-six yards in length, and one hundred and ten yards in breadth; its direction is from east to west, and at the former extremity is a mound of earth resembling a long barrow, which stretches entirely across it." The use to which this enclosure was appropriated is at present conjectural, whether for the celebration of certain games or for the purpose of assembling large numbers of the population is alike uncertain; but we may observe, "that it

is called *Yestree* in the poems of the Bard *Anewrin*, and is said to have been the area on which the conference between *Vortigern* and *Hengist* was held, and on which the feast was displayed under temporary apartments of wood."

Respecting the first erection of this wonderful temple, a number of opinions have been entertained; some of which carry an air of probability, and others are doubtless the illegitimate offspring of the imagination. Conjecture has here displayed its power in forming an unstable foundation for theory upon theory, but many of these fabled accounts are now unheeded, and have either fallen, or are fast falling into disrepute and oblivion.—Its antiquity, however, is unquestionable, and some of the most ancient authors of repute, as well as the less authenticated legends of former ages, alike abound with allusions to the existence of *Stonehenge*, and offer their opinions as regards its erection and design.

Amongst the earliest of the historical accounts is that given by *Nennius*, who lived about the eighth century, and mentions the circumstance of a conference being held here between *Vortigern*, King of the Britons, and *Hengist*, a Saxon General; at which conference 460 British Nobles were slain in a treacherous manner; and from this circumstance, which he states as having occurred in this part of the Island, he attributes the origin of *Stonehenge*, as being erected to perpetuate the memory of so tragical an event. In coincidence with this opinion, a Welsh chronicler of the name of *Walter de Mapes*, has given a long and circumstantial detail of the erection of the building, and of the bringing of the stones from Ireland, where they had been standing for many ages, in a similar form to the present, for the said intention; and he also states that they were originally brought to that island for medicinal purposes, "by giants from the extremities of Spain. The reason of their bringing them was, that when any of them was attacked by disease, they used to make a fomentation in the midst of the stones, first laving them with water, which they poured into the fomentation, and through that they obtained health from the disease that might affect them, for they put herbs in the fomentation, and those healed their

wounds. When the Britons heard of the virtues of those stones, immediately they set off to bring them." Other legendary authors somewhat accord with this account, or at least so far as regards their being erected as a monumental tribute of respect to the remains of some illustrious person or persons; and Giraldus Cambrensis asserts, that during his tour through Ireland, he saw "*with his own eyes*," an immense monument of stones on the plains of Kildare, exactly corresponding in appearance and construction, with those at Stonehenge."

At an earlier period than the existence of the authors of these legends, or than the occurrence of the events they have recorded, we may observe some indistinct allusions to the circumstance, that there was an island known, in which was situated a temple corresponding in many respects with that at Stonehenge; and in all probability these allusions were founded upon the knowledge acquired by the Phœnicians, at that era the most celebrated for commercial pursuits of any of the maritime states bordering on the Mediterranean sea, and supposed, by several, to be the introducers of druidical ceremonies into this island. These voyagers (the inhabitants of those celebrated cities Tyre and Sidon, the names of which, and the remembrance of their past greatness, are all that now remains of them) when visiting this country, in quest of its mineral production, like those of modern date, would extend their progress into the interior, and any remarkable object of nature or art, attracting attention, would naturally serve as a theme for subsequent opinion or discourse. On this ground, we may conclude, that the early Grecian authors, whose means of obtaining information were commensurate with the extension of knowledge, as then diffused over this portion of the globe, would obtain from the Phœnicians an account of the countries they had visited; and on their part transmit to posterity, through the perpetuating agency of the historic or poetic muse, such subjects as appeared to them wonderful, or to bear a relation to their mythological ceremonies or doctrines. Hence we find, that Diodorus Siculus records from a writer on antiquity, named Hecateus, a passage concerning a temple, which analogy would incline us to consider as that of

Stonehenge: for after describing the situation of this island, its soil, &c. he proceeds in the following manner. "Tradition says that Latona was born here, and therefore Apollo is worshipped in preference to any other deity, and because the inhabitants celebrate him daily with continued songs of praise, and pay him the highest adoration, they are considered as the priests of Apollo, to whom a magnificent *precinct* is allotted, and a *remarkable temple of a round form*, and adorned with many votive offerings."

From the numerous accounts which have been given to the world, and the generally received opinions respecting the design of such a structure, we cannot otherwise than come to the conclusion, but that it was intended for *religious purposes*, and consequently was one of the principal sanctuaries of our heathen ancestors.—Here, it would be apparently neglectful, on account of the interest it may afford the reader, to pass by the observations of Sir Rich. Hoare, and not avail myself of an occasional remark from the work of this distinguished antiquarian. When speaking of Stonehenge, he observes, "I have before stated my opinion, that our earliest inhabitants were Celts, who naturally introduced with them, their own buildings, customs, rites and religious ceremonies, and to them I attribute the erection of Stonehenge, and the greater part of sepulchral memorials that still continue to render its environs so truly interesting to the antiquary and historian."

"The general title of Druidical, has been given to all these stone monuments, and some of my readers may be surprised that I have not adopted it. That the Druids existed in our Island at a very early period, and officiated as priests there can be no doubt; but as the learned Mr. Bryant in his *Mythology* observes, 'under the sanction of their names we shelter ourselves whenever we are ignorant and bewildered;' and Mr. Borlase with equal justness remarks 'that the work of Stonehenge must have been that of a great and powerful nation, not of a limited community of priests; the grandeur of the design, the distance of the materials, the tediousness with which all such massive works are necessarily attended, all shew that such designs were the fruits of peace and religion.'"

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In another place, the same learned author observes, "It is a melancholy consideration, that at a period when the sciences are progressively advancing, and when newly discovered manuscripts are continually drawn forth from their cloistered retreats to throw a light on the ancient records of our country: it is mortifying, I say, that the history of so celebrated a monument as Stonehenge should still remain veiled in obscurity. The Monks may boldly assert that Merlin, and only Merlin was the founder of our Temple, and we cannot contradict, though we may disbelieve. The revolution of ages frequently illustrates history and brings important facts to light: but here all is darkness and uncertainty, we may admire, we may conjecture, but we are doomed to remain in ignorance and obscurity."

It may not be improper in this place to advert to the opinions recently advanced by Mr. Browne respecting the antediluvian origin of Stonehenge: from whose work, some remarks were quoted in my preceding account of Avebury, (or Abury) after making allusion to the ideas entertained by several authors, he observes,—“Other opinions might be noticed, such as those of regarding it as a monument raised by the Britons in memory of Queen Boadicea: as the burying place of Uther Pendragon, Constantine, Ambrosius, and other British Kings; as a Druid monument erected either for a burying place, a trophy for some victory or a place for election or coronation of their kings, as a work of the Phoenicians, &c..”—Can such a people as these be consistently regarded as the builders of Stonehenge, a fabric which evinces not only a natural power far beyond what the Britons possessed, but an amazing ability in the conveyance and erection of immense stones, as well as great ingenuity and exertion in the carving of them. But if the ancient Britons were incapable of erecting Stonehenge as an individual fabric, how much more inadequate will they be found to the forming of Abury also, consisting of between six and seven hundred large masses of stone? Let us add to these two stupendous undertakings, the no less amazing work of Tilbury Hill, and the almost numberless testimonies to human exertion, which are found in the stones of the

same quality that still remain in the neighbourhood of Abury, but more particularly between that building and the part from whence all these stones were originally brought, and we shall find it indispensably necessary to turn our attention to a people of far, far greater power than the ancient Britons.

"With the character of the Druids, we most of us are acquainted, through the circumstance of reading the history of our own country: With that of the Antediluvians we should be no less familiar and be well aware that the lives of the latter were, generally speaking, ten times the duration of those of the former; that they were, in all probability, in consequence, both of greater stature, and of greater strength; that they built cities, were conversant with works of art; made instruments of music; and worked both in brass and in iron; that they erected places of worship, according to the judgment of the most ancient and learned commentators upon these words, "Then began men to call upon the name of the Lord," (Gen. iv. 26.); and sacrificed upon altars; that the then existing atmosphere of the earth, was more congenial with their constitutions, and rendered an abode in the open air more comfortable to them; that they had continually before their eyes, for more than half the duration of the Antediluvian world, the presence of the miraculously created Adam himself, and that their consciousness of the continual power and superintending Providence of the Almighty, could not but have been proportionally strong, and manifest in all things which they undertook, that were immediately connected with it, particularly their temples, which cannot but be expected to be of the most sublime kind."

Pleasing as are the ideas which naturally arise within the mind, when contemplating the progressive advancement of knowledge, from a state of comparative obscurity and darkness, to the more cheerful irradiance of improvement or the blaze of perfection. Yet it is not devoid of interest to revert in imagination to former periods of which we know but comparatively a few things; and to call to our recollection the memorials of our ancestors long since numbered with the dead. The remains of former ages, whether connected with the occur-

rence of particular events, or veiled in obscurity, as concerns their origin, have alike attracted the attention of the divine and the philosopher, the historian and the poet. Hence many a youthful mind has been kindled with enthusiastic ardour, when the scene of heroic achievements, or the reliques of the earliest ages, have been for the first time presented to its view. A feeling of this description has been well depicted in an observation by a young friend and esteemed correspondent, who has not yet visited any part of this county.* “Stonehenge, of all places, I have a desire to visit—the contemplation of so stupendous a monument of the un-enslaved genius of the men of olden time, the chiefs of the powerful arm, the unerring bow, and the rapturous song—would animate me to exclaim in the language of Ossian, “the actions of other times are in my soul, my memory beams on the days that are past!” That interesting character *Chatterton*, whose unfortunate end, has caused many a youthful votary of the muse to drop a sympathetic tear, has arrayed some verses in an antique dress, and in the following manner alludes to Stonehenge :

“Where fruytless heathes and meadows cladde in greie,
Save where derne hawthornes reare theyre humble hedde
The hungrie traveller upon his waie
Sees a huge deserte all arounde hym spreadde,
The distaunte citie scantlie to be spedde,
The curlynge force of smoke he sees in vayne,
’Tis too far distaunte, and his onlie bedde
Iwimpled in hys cloke ys on the playne,
Whylste rattlynge thonder forrey o’er hys hedde
And raines come down to wette his hard uncouthlie bedde.

“A wondrous pyle of rugged mountaynes standes,
Plac’d on eche other in a dreare arraie,
It ne could be the worke of human handes,
It ne was reared up bie menne of claie.
Here did the Brytons adoration paye
To the false god whom they did Tauran name,

* Mr. C. A. Hulbert, whose signature frequently appears in the *Select Museum*.

Lightnyge hys altarre with greeete fires in Maie,
 Roastyng their victims round about the flame :
 'Twas here, that Hengyst did the Brytons slee,
 As they were mette in council for to bee."

In the works of the British Poets are to be found several allusions to this subject ; but as selections from them would too much increase the bulk of these observations, I shall pass them by, with the exception of the two following Sonnets : the *first* being from the pen of Dr. Warton, and containing an apt allusion to the different ideas which have been entertained respecting the origin of Stonehenge : whereas the secluded state in which this solemn record of ancient ages exists, having a tendency to impress the mind with feelings of a melancholy nature, has imparted a striking feature to the sentiments contained in the *second*, by the late Robert Lovell.

SONNET I.

Written at Stonehenge.

" Thou noblest monument of Albion isle !
 Whether by Merlin's aid from Scythia's shore
 To Amber's fatal plain, Pendragon bore
 Huge frame of giant hands, the mighty pile
 To entomb his Britons, slain by Hengist's guile :
 Or Druid Priests, sprinkled with human gore,*
 Taught mid thy massy maze, their mystic lore :
 Or Danish chiefs enriched with savage spoil,

* As it respects Human Sacrifices, various Cruelties and Immoralities ascribed to the Druidical worship, the Editor of this Work has met with no positive evidence whatever on the subject, nor the testimony of one single eye witness of the occurrence of such scenes of horror ; this evil character of the British Druids has been transmitted to us through the false channels of their calumniating enemies, the Romans—who knew, that while these venerable men maintained any influence or authority in Britain, their own power must be insecure. The first Christians were vilified in a similar manner.—*See Hulbert's Religions of Britain.*

To Victory's idol vast; an unbewn shrine,
Reared the rude heap : or in thy hallow'd round
Repose the Kings of Brutus' genuine line :
Or here those Kings in solemn state were crown'd.
Studious to trace thy wondrous origin,
We muse on many an ancient tale renown'd."

SONNET II.

" Was it a spirit on yon shapeless pile ?
It wore, me thought, an hoary Druid's form,
Musing as in ancient days ! the dying storm
Moan'd on his lifted locks : thou Night ! the while
Dost listen to his sad harp's wild complaint;
Mother of shadows ! as to thee he pours
The broken strain, and plaintively deplores
The fall of Druid fame ! Hark ! murmurs faint
Breathe on the wavy air ! and now more loud
Swells the deep dirge accustomed to complain
Of holy rites unpaid, and of the crowd
Whose careless steps those sacred haunts profane !
O'er the wild plain, the hurrying tempest flies,
And mid the storm unheard—the song of sorrow dies ;"
Stonehenge has also been recently made the subject of
a *Prize Poem*,* and some well written verses have con

* The Prize was adjudged to Mr. T. S. Salmon, of
Brazen Nose College, the poem consisting of the following lines :

" Wrapt in the veil of time's unbroken gloom,
Obscure as death, and silent as the tomb,
Where cold oblivion holds her dusky reign,
Frowns the dark pile on Sarum's lonely plain.
Yet think not here with classic eye to trace
Corinthian beauty, or Ionian grace ;
No pillar'd lines with sculptured foliage crown'd ;
No fluted remnants deck the hallow'd ground ;
Firm as implanted by some Titan's might,
Each rugged stone, uprears its giant height,
Whence the poised fragment tottering seems to throw
A trembling shadow on the plain below,

sequently appeared before the public: there are also some allusions to it in a Poem, entitled '*Prescience*,' in which the author having in view, Scott's lines on Melrose

Here oft when evening sheds her twilight ray
And gilds with fainter beam departing day,
With breathless gaze, and cheek with terror pale,
The lingering shepherd startles at the tale;
How at deep midnight, by the moon's chill glance,
Unearthly forms prolong the viewless dance:
While on each whispering breeze that murmurs by,
His busy fancy hears the hollow sigh.

Rise, from thy haunt, dread genius of the clime:
Rise, magic spirit of forgotten time:
'Tis thine to burst the mantling clouds of age
And fling new radiance on Tradition's page:
See! at thy call, from Fable's varied store,
In shadowy train, the mingled visions pour;
Here the wild Briton 'mid his wilder reign,
Spurns the proud yoke & scorns th' oppressor's chain:
Here wizard Merlin, where the mighty fell,*
Weaves the dark wand, and chaunts the thrilling spell.
Hark! 'tis the Bardic lyre, whose harrowing strain
Wakes the rude echoes of the slumbering plain;
Lo! 'tis the Druid pomp, whose lengthening line
In lowliest homage bends before the shrine.
He comes—the priest—amid the sullen blaze,
His snow-white robe in spectral lustre plays:
Dim gleam the torches thro' the circling night,
Dark curl the vapours round the altar's light:
O'er the black scene of death, each conscious star,
In lurid glory, rolls its silent car.

'Tis gone! e'en now the distant horrors fade,
From Sarum's loneliness, and Mona's shade;
Hush'd, is each note of Talliesin's† lyre,
Sheath'd the fell blade, and quench'd the fatal fire.

* The British Nobles slain by Hengist.

† Taliesin, President of the Bards, flourished in the 6th century.

Abbey, has described the effects of a visit to it on a *stormy night*.

In conclusion, I would observe, that whether we consider this interesting monument as of *antediluvian* construction; or as the workmanship of persons who existed at a later period than the *flood*, it was undoubtedly dedicated to solemn purposes, especially to the combined ones of sacrifice and devotion: and it accordingly constituted one of the principal sanctuaries of our ancestors. To this Temple, sacred to the mysteries of *Druidism*, a religion held in great reverence by the former inhabitants of this Island, for its sanctity and solemnity, the chiefs, the priests, and other classes of the community, were accustomed to repair and hold their assemblies for sacrifice and worship. At these assemblies when the white robed priest, approached the altar in the centre of the mystic circle, bearing the mistletoe which had been gathered from the venerable oak with great solemnity and respect;—the ceremonial rites, as they proceeded, were frequently interrupted by the expiring shrieks of the devoted victims; and the flowing garments of the sacrificer, sprinkled by an effusion of blood, fresh from the palpitating heart of the immolated human being. Happily, such scenes have long since ceased! for the all-powerful *Sun of Righteousness*, has arisen, and the benignant influence of his beams has extended over this land, dispersing by their radiance, the gloom of superstition and the night of ignorance; and from hence, are extending those rays which will ultimately shed a splendour over the whole world, till the uttermost isles, and the remotest corners thereof, shall participate in the knowledge of the true and only God.

On wings of light, Hope's angel form appears,
Smiles on the past, and points to happier years;
Points with uplifted hand, and raptured eye,
To yon pure dawn that floods the opening sky;
And views at length, the Sun of Judah pour
One cloudless noon o'er Albion's rescued shore."

The operations of the Romans are denoted by remains of several Roads and Stations. Watling Street enters the county in the east, near Crackly Wood, and passes through it with a bending line, to Leintwardine on the southern borders.

The village of Wroxeter, the ancient Uriconium, situated on the north east side of the Severn, at a distance of five miles from Shrewsbury, was a Roman station of considerable importance. Traces of a Rampart and Ditch, three miles in circumference, together with a Bridge over the Severn, are still discernable. The venerable remains of a fortified Wall still exist in proud defiance of storms, tempests, and the rude hand of man, and constitute a very interesting object to travellers on the London road between Atcham and Norton. Roman Baths, traces of Buildings, Urns, Coins, and other Antiquities, are constantly met with. Copper Coins of the Roman Emperors, of the third Century, are found in great abundance.

A few years ago, a very beautiful tessellated Roman Pavement, was discovered at Lea Cross, near Shrewsbury.

The lofty Rampart and deep attendant Dyke, constructed by King Offa, as a line of separation between Mercia and Wales, crosses the western part of this county: many traces of it still exist near Oswestry, though the farmers and owners of land adjoining, are rapidly removing the soil of which it is composed, for the purposes of agriculture.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL REMAINS

Of this county, are numerous, and greatly deserving the attention of the tourist and antiquary. At a short distance from the foot of the Wrekin, on the road from Shrewsbury to the Ironbridge, are the picturesque ruins of Buildwas Abbey, highly interesting to the architectural antiquary, since they are supposed to present the first instance of that *mixed style*, in which the circular and pointed modes are blended in one original design.

The splendid ruins of Wenlock Abbey, twelve miles from Shrewsbury, will amply repay the visits of the tourist. The remains comprehend part of the Church,

a noble structure in that style of pointed architecture which prevailed in the thirteenth century, the Chapter House, a fine example of the Anglo Norman mode of building, and various traces of ambulatories and domestic parts of the edifice.

Lilleshal Abbey, near Newport, is a fine ruin. The remains of Hales Owen Monastery have been the subject of several engravings.

The Ruins of the Abbey at Shrewsbury are highly worthy of notice, especially a small octangular structure, generally denominated the Stone Pulpit, and is believed to have constituted the reading desk of the refectory.

Haughmond Abbey, four miles from Shrewsbury, is the property of Mrs. Corbett, whose elegant seat, Sundorne castle, is situated a short distance from these venerable relics ; great care is taken by the owner to preserve them from farther dilapidation. They at present consist of a considerable portion of the Chapter House, exhibiting a richly decorated circular arch, with a window on each side. Of the Abbey Church, little now remains, except the south door case, which is a fine circular arch. There are likewise vestiges of the refectory, and some contiguous spacious apartments.

BATTLEFIELD Church, situated within sight of the Abbey, was originally collegiate, and dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene. While the parish of Battlefield contains but few inhabitants, those few are generally wealthy and respectable, but for want of antiquarian taste, their venerable temple of parochial devotion, is suffered to remain in a state of dilapidation and sorrowful decay.—The chancel only is used for Divine Worship. The Nave is ruinous and deprived of its roof. The steeple is also uncovered, and in a most ruined condition. The name of Adam Grafton, Warden of the College, in the reign of Henry VII. appears upon the east side, by whom it was probably re-built, or greatly repaired. It was originally adorned with eight handsome pinnacles, several of which have disappeared. A small bell, quite large enough to call the whole parish together, if disposed to assemble, is suspended in one corner of the tower.

Within the memory of persons now living, the whole was entire. The choir had handsome stalls, and the windows were adorned with fine painted glass, representing the death of John the Baptist—likewise the portraits of some of the principal warriors, who fell on the king's side, in the battle of Shrewsbury, with their arms and cognizances. When the church was repaired, the glass was taken from the windows and entrusted to a neighbouring farmer, who suffered it to be mutilated, or carried away,* so that what is patched up in the east window are the few remaining fragments that escaped the general wreck, and from their beauty, excite the deepest regret for the destruction of the rest. In one of the stone seats of the officiating priests, on the south side the altar, is a rude carving in wood, of the Virgin and Child.

The Church of Battlefield is peculiarly worthy of notice in this work, from the important and memorable circumstance which gave it being, viz—a battle fought between a King of England, and some of his most illustrious subjects in arms against him. This battle has been recorded by various historians, and completely immortalized by the genius of Shakespeare, in his play of Henry the IV. For the following spirited History of this event, the Editor is indebted to the Rev. H. Owen's "Account of the Town of Shrewsbury."

"The fight began early in the morning of St. Magdalene's eve, July 22, 1403, in a place called Battlefield, near a small brook just without the north gate. Percy placed his best troops amidst some acres of ripe peas, hoping thereby to retard the motion of his adversary's heavy armed infantry. The onset commenced with a dreadful discharge of arrows from both lines, the King's forces crying out "St. George," those of the rebels, "Esperance Percy!" The Scots rushed with impetuous fury upon the front of the royal army, which began to fall back, but the King at that moment arriving with reinforcements, infused new spirits into his almost bro-

* A small portion of which, after passing through various hands, was recently in the Editor's.

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ken squadrons, who again rallied and recovered their ground. The battle raged towards Berwick, as far as the spot now called Battlefield, and almost to the Abbey of Haughmond. The veteran Monarch fought with an ardour worthy the crown he was defending, exposed his person in the thickest of the fight, and had a horse killed under him, having slain thirty six persons with his own hand. The Prince of Wales, afterwards so famous in our warlike annals for his splendid victories in France, and whose wild youthful excesses delight us in the vivid pages of Shakespeare, by his valour on this memorable day, recovered his father's lost opinion; even a wound which he received in the face by an arrow could not oblige him to quit the field. The gallant Percy supported that renown which he had acquired in many a bloody combat; and almost incredible acts of valour were performed by the illustrious Douglas.

“————— Douglas! whose high deeds,
“ Whose hot incursions, and great name in arms,
“ Holds from all soldiers chief majority,
“ And military title capital,
“ Thro’ all the kingdoms that acknowledge Christ!”

This valiant Nobleman aspired to the glory of slaying the Usurper with his own arm, and as Henry had honoured several Knights by accoutering them in the royal armour, the sword of Douglas rendered that proud distinction fatal to many of them. He was once upon the point of atchieving the grand object of his ambition, for fiercely making up to the King, assisted by Percy, after having killed Sir Walter Blount, the royal standard bearer, they assailed the Monarch with such fury, as to oblige him to fly from that part of the field, and it was with difficulty he escaped with life. After the battle had continued during three hours with doubtful success, Percy fell by an unknown hand. Some Knights of his party, probably anxious to hide the disaster from the troops, who were beginning already to give way, or if possible to convert it to their advantage, exclaimed “the King is slain, long live Percy!” Henry at this instant, rushing into the midst of the enemy, with admirable presence of mind, cried out, “the King lives; I am

"your King, Harry Percy is slain, St. George and victory!" This decided the fortune of the day. The rebels fled on all sides, struck with the news of their leader's death.

" — His death, whose spirit lent a fire
 " Even to the dullest peasant in the camp,
 " Being bruited once, took fire and heat away,
 " From the best tempered courage in his troop,
 " For from his metal was his party steel'd ;
 " Which once in him abated, all the rest
 " Turn'd on themselves like dull and heavy lead."

The King wishing to spare the further effusion of blood, endeavoured to stop the ardour of pursuit, but could not prevail until his victorious troops had cut to pieces a gallant body of Knights, and Gentlemen of Cheshire, who ever faithful to the memory of their late Sovereign, had united with the Percies against his murderer and the usurper of his crown.

"The battle of Shrewsbury is among those of the first importance recorded in ancient English history—it fixed the house of Lancaster on the throne during three reigns and may be called the earliest of those conflicts between the white and red roses, which fifty years afterwards filled the nation with calamity, and stained it with deluges of its best blood. Henry obtained a complete victory. We shall scarcely find any battle in those ages where the shock was more terrible and more constant.—There are said to have fallen on that day on both sides, 2,300 Knights and Gentlemen; but the persons of greatest distinction were on the King's; the Earl of Stafford, Sir Hugh Stanley, Sir Nicholas Gausel, Sir Hugh Mortimer, Sir John Massey, and Sir John Calverley, most of whom were buried in the convents of the Black and Augustine Friars. About 6000 private men perished, of whom 5000 were of Percies' army, and of the brave Scots few were left alive. The Earls of Worcester and Douglas were taken prisoners: the former, with Sir Theobald Trussel and Sir Richard Vernon, were, on the following Monday beheaded at the High Cross in Shrewsbury. Douglas was generously released without ransom by the King, who

treated him with the respect due to his merit. The body of Percy was found among the slain, and at first delivered to the Lord Furnival for interment, but by Henry's orders it was the next day taken from the grave and placed between two mill-stones, in the Market-place, guarded by armed men ; after which he caused it to be quartered, and hung on the gates of Shrewsbury and other places of the kingdom. Glyndwr had the mortification to remain all the time of the battle at the head of 12,000 men inactive at Oswestry ; he afterwards returned into Wales, and though he again contrived to harass the English, by forcing them to a succession of tedious and unfortunate expeditions, he at length experienced adverse fortune, but died at the house of his daughter, in Herefordshire, on the 20th of September, 1414, in his 61st year, in respectable circumstances, probably at least in possession of his hereditary estates. Henry returned thanks to heaven for this great victory, and caused the Collegiate Church of Battlefield to be founded on the spot probably where most of the slain had been buried, placing in it five Canons to pray for the souls of all that fell on that fatal field."

Thus ends the narration of one of the most desperate struggles in our ancient history--The combatants, men of the most distinguished valour ; the prize, the crown of England ; and though the site of the tragical event be marked only by a Gothic edifice, with few peculiarities, except its strange dilapidation and neglect, it is, to the sentimental mind, classic ground, and will not be viewed without the remembrance of the conflict which gave it name, nor trod without some thoughts, similar to those expressed in the following original lines ; written by a young contributor, during an evening excursion to the church and neighbourhood, (about three miles from Shrewsbury,) and while sitting near the place where many who fell in the battle are said to have been buried: "The spreading oaks and yews wave over them, and the green grass, studded with the modest daisy, decorates their graves."

ELEGY,

Written at Battlefield.

WHILE o'er yon hill, day's latest halo dies,
And points a moral in the wane of time;
My sombre thoughts in twilight sadness rise,
As slow I trace the scene of death and crime.

The evening bell, which dirges sadly o'er
The fallen Warrior's low unhonoured bed,
With solemn cadence seems this lonely hour,
To peal its requiem, o'er the valiant dead.

The murmuring winds, which o'er the valley sweep,
Their spirits seem, upon their wings sublime,
Rising in death once more to view and weep
The ruthless rigour of the hand of Time.

And when around the rifted, tottering tower,
And through its locks of ivied age they rave,
Fancy invokes her mighty spell of Power,
To break the sacred silence of the grave.

Swift o'er the mind, the years of contest rise,
Which made the page of history blush with gore,
Till tears of pitying sadness fill the eyes,
And wake the visions of the days of yore!

Deep in this field of undistinguished graves,
Mark'd by yon ancient sacred pile alone,
Where the sad yew's impervious foliage waves;
The dark memorial of the ages gone.—

The warriors sleep, who, in those eras past,
Wielded on high, the blood encrimson'd sword,
Who when they heard the martial trumpet's blast,
Replied with murder, to its dread watchword.

Here rests th' unaching heads, which dreamt of fame,
And madly dreaming, fought, despising death;
But ah! forgotten is their once lov'd name,
And faded lies the enlaurell'd soldier's wreath!

Ye chiefs, who like the streamers of the north,
Blaz'd to augment the beams of Percy's star,
Where sleeps the fire that kindling drew ye forth,
And hid in fame the dark alarms of war.

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O Hotspur! word of terror and dismay,
Where waves thy flag? Where foams thy courser now?
Was fortune faithless as thy sword that day!^{*}
Is time less erring than thy deadly bow?

Ah bravest Douglass! Caledonia's son,
Thy day of bright, unclouded life is o'er;
No wounds can pain—no valiant feats be done,
Thy lofty plumes shall proudly wave no more!

Thou Kingly chief! on whom did Triumph's Sun,
Its noonday splendour lighten on this heath,
The meteor halo of thy name is gone,
And gloom succeeds the wasted lamp of death.

Young Prince of Monmouth! conquering Planet here
Whom Percy's armies found a stubborn fort,
Art thou too sleeping—thou who scatter'dst fear
O'er all the nations, from thy Agincourt!

Yes, with their fame, the world's wide regions rung,
Its echo sunk in medal, verse and bust;
Now, all the deathless glory, that was sung,
Is ruin, ashes, elegy and rust!

As blest their vassals! the oblivious brave,
By bard unsung, by fame unhonoured now,
Repose as calm in their promiscuous grave,
Though wondering nations cherish not their woe!

For lo! the clang of victory, war and fame;
The titan prowess, struggling for the crown;
The Henries', Percies', and the Worcesters' name,
Have lost their claim to reverence and renown!

The soldiers' wounds have ceased to throb and flow;
The chieftain's voice to lead the desperate charge,

* Hotspur, previous to the battle, enquired for his sword, and on being told that it had been left behind at Berwick, (near Shrewsbury,) where they had slept the night before, he exclaimed "My plough is drawing to its last furrow, for a witch told me I should fall at Berwick, which I interpreted of that town in the north, but nevertheless I will not be cheaply won."

The shout of victory, and the yell of woe;
 "*Esperance Percy*," and the loud "*St. George!*"
 In fruitful peace the fields of horror beam;
 Through skulls and graves the plough pursues i
 path;
 Oft doth the swain their arms* from rust redeem,
 And reap life's harvest with the blades of death!
 And may the meads, where pranced the horse of wa
 Long by the peaceful team alone be trod;
 Heaven shed thy storms, from each malignant star;
 But steep not Britain in her children's blood!
 Ye fields! ye hills! which witness'd and return'd
 War's various tones, the clangour of their arms,
 As cleft by many a sanguine stream ye mourn'd
 The fatal triumph of Bellona's charms;
 Ne'er may ye teem again with British blood,
 Nor weeping gore be shook again in fight;
 May Discord dwell beyond the ocean's flood,
 And Peace round Albion, hold her shield of light
 But that thy peerless genius, Shakspeare, throws
 A spell around each tale thy powers enwreath,
 Virtue could mourn, that fame enshrines their woes
 And blame the hand that rescued them from deat
 Baneful, yet bright, ador'd though dim'd with crime
 Their fatal starlight fills the soul of youth:
 Their horrors vanish in thy praise sublime:
 Ambition scorns the simple garb of truth.
 But yet Oblivion, though she proudly spread,
 Fast, her dark curtain o'er the peaceful wise;
 Spare most the worthless and rebellious dead,
 While modest Virtue undistinguished dies!—
 Must shortly sweep their slaughter nourished bays,
 And quench their tomb's last torchlight in her streai

* In 1823, two ancient shields were ploughed up
 different dimensions. The smallest (which was t
 most valuable) is supposed to have been worn by
 horseman, and the larger by a foot soldier. II. P.

And all their glory seem to future days
The wild remembrance of a morning dream.
Then, but not blushing as the roses grew,
By tyrants dyed in floods of human gore,
Round Virtue's shrine a wreath of deathless hue,
Though every age shall grow and blossom more.
Those stars of light whose lives promoted peace,
In love embalmed shall lose their lustre never :
But when the blaze of hell-born war shall cease,
Shine round the God of Harmony for ever ! *

C. A. H.

THE BARONIAL REMAINS

Of Shropshire are numerous, from which the following are selected :

Shrewsbury Castle, built by Roger de Montgomery, was a royal Fortress in the time of Henry I. After the final submission of the Welsh, it was suffered to decay, and almost sink into ruins. In the seventeenth century it was repaired, and is now the residence of Mr. Pelham, one of the Members of Parliament for the county. The ancient remains of the Fortress are, the keep, the walls of the inner court, and the great arch of the interior gate.

At High Ercal, little more than 8 miles from Shrewsbury, are vestiges of a Mansion, formerly the residence of the noble Newport family, whose sufferings† and loyal-

* Vide Daniel, chap. xii. 3.

† A manuscript, written by Joseph Lister, of Bradford, in Yorkshire, giving an account of the siege of that town by the King's forces, contains the following passage—"One circumstance somewhat remarkable cannot be omitted ; during the heat of this action, a stout young officer (said to be the Earl of Newport's son) heading a company of foot, came down the field on the left side of the high road, under cover of a thick hedge, intending to force a passage through a house and so surprise the church : But being too sanguine, pushed on a little too fast before his men, fell into an ambuscade—being cut off from his men, and seeing no way to escape, begged for quarter, but was answered by one Ralph Atkin-

ty were so eminent in the Civil Wars, of the King and Parliament: at that period this mansion sustained a long and severe assault. The remains of the Hall, are converted into a spacious farm house, now in the occupation of Mr. Steadman, a liberal and enlightened farmer. A few years ago, a considerable number of gold and silver coins, of the reigns of Elizabeth, James, and Charles, were found, in removing some soil, nearly adjoining the premises, several of which were kindly presented to the Editor by Mr. Steadman. A tree is shown at the distance of a field from the mansion, which, it is said, a drummer of the Parliament army ascended every day, and beat defiance and insult to the besieged, until a musketeer, from the roof of the building, gave him death for his vaunting temerity.

Moreton Corbet Castle, the property of Sir A. Corbet, Bart. of Acton Reynald, about 8 miles from Shrewsbury, is a very fine ruin. With the history of this castle, we are little acquainted—It appears never to have been entirely finished by its projectors; and that it was garrisoned by the parliamentary forces, in the civil war; that it sustained an assault from one party or other, by whom very probably it was reduced to a ruined state.

At Middle, about the same distance from Shrewsbury, still exist a small Tower and other Remains of a Castle, never of any great consequence.

Of Oswestry Castle little now is visible.

Of Whittington Castle, in the vicinity of Oswestry, the two Towers of the East Gateway, are still entire, and the remains of eight massy Towers, with intermediate Walls also appear.

Cause Castle, near Westbury, ten miles from Shrewsbury, was one of those twenty-four Lordships which Roger de Corbet held of Roger de Montgomery. It was once an important station between Shrewsbury and Montgomery; but little now remains to attest its for-

son, saying, 'He would give him Bradford quarter,' and immediately slew him." This the infuriated Atkinson, tradition says, effected by stabbing his victim through the body with a pitchfork, while on his knees supplicating for quarter, which rashness he lamented during life. ED.

strength and greatness, except a gateway, and some remains of walls. A few years ago the Castle and the whole Estate connected with it, were the property of Thomas Hawley, now of Germantown, Pennsylvania; evidence of whose agricultural skill and industry are still visible in thriving plantations, and for irrigation, &c.—Nor less the recollection of liberality and generosity, in the minds of those whom his kindness relieved, his enterprise employed, or his name spared.

Bridgenorth, a Castle was founded at an early period and was probably the first building erected at this place by Lady Ethelfreda. This fortress was rebuilt soon after the Norman conquest, and became the theatre of several distinguished military transactions. In the year 1141, during the revolt of the barons against Henry First, Robert Earl of Shrewsbury defended the castle with great obstinacy, but was at length obliged to capitulate. Hugh de Mortimer for some time maintained a struggle against the arms of Henry the Second. In the civil wars of the seventeenth century Bridgenorth wasarrisoned in favour of the unhappy Charles; and the castle was not surrendered to the Parliament forces until all hope of succour was abandoned. at the end of a long and stout resistance which lasted throughout one whole year.

After its surrender to the Parliament-army the castle was reduced to the ground, with the exception of part of the tower. This relic is usually considered an object of some curiosity, on account of its deviation from an upright position. From the effect of undermining, it stands nearly an angle of seventy-three degrees with the horizon, or seventeen from the perpendicular. Sustained by the strength of masonry and depth of foundation, it was likely to maintain this fearful posture for many years if spared by the destructive agency of human effort. Some years ago an attempt was made by several men, to prostrate this venerable ruin. Horses and men were yoked for the labour, and though apparently about to fall, it sustained and baffled all their power.

* See page 67, Museum Americanum.

Ludlow Castle, now a deserted ruin, appears to have been partly built soon after the Norman conquest; and becoming a royal fortress in the reign of Henry the first, shared, during many succeeding reigns, in the warlike operations of those contentious ages.

After the reign of William and Mary the castle sank into progressive decay. The apartments in which kings had feasted and poets had sung, were plundered without scruple, and their materials converted to sordid uses.

The remains of the castle are situated at the north-west angle of the town, and comprise the ancient keep, and many subordinate towers, together with vestiges of apartments constructed in times more urbane than those in which the structure was merely viewed as a fortress. Amongst the most curious parts must be noticed the chapel, of which the nave alone remains. This building is of a circular form, and affords some beautiful specimens of Anglo-Norman architecture. Public walks are now constructed on the confines of the interesting ruins. These agreeable walks are shaded with trees, and are well calculated to inspire reflections on the mutable nature of human grandeur, whilst they afford a place of healthful recreation highly desirable in the neighbourhood of every large town.

ANTIQUITIES OF CHESHIRE.

The same.

THE County of Chester abounds with Antiquities. — Long before the arrival of the Romans, the city of Chester (anciently *Cærlæil*) enjoyed considerable distinction among its neighbours. From the figure of the Walls, combined with the discovery of many Antiquities, the general opinion is that they were erected by the Romans. The Saxon Chronicle relates that they were repaired by Ethelred, Duke of Mercia, and Ethelfleda his wife.

A few yards from the Feathers' Inn, Bridge-street, is the scite of a Roman building of some importance. To the antiquary and connoisseur, this place possesses great interest; for here are preserved in a tolerable perfect state, the remains of one of the hypocausts, and twenty baths.

field adjoining Handbridge, one of the suburbs of Chester, is an excavation in a rock, called Edgar's Cave, and has a figure at the entrance, rudely carved in stone, supposed to represent Minerva and her bird; supposed to have been cut by the Roman Soldiers for their amusement.

Very near to which traces of a Roman camp have been discovered.

A Roman Altar, was found on Thursday the 29th of May, 1821. As the dedication of it is singular, and excited a good deal of discussion among the curious, a full description will not be unacceptable. The field in which it was discovered, is called the *Daniels*, in Handboughton, and is the property of Mr. Simon Faulkner, gardener. It is situated near the junction of the Roman Roads to Mancunium (Manchester) and Mediomagus (Chester), in Staffordshire) about 350 yards from the Black Lion. Mr. Faulkner having made a contract to furnish a quantity of sand for the new building at Eaton, some workmen were employed to cut it and in levelling a tumulus about half way up the hill on the west side, they struck against a hard substance, which upon inspection proved to be the Altar in question. The ornamental parts have been neatly executed, particularly the mouldings and the finishing of the scrolls. The inscription, which is quite perfect, has been thus Anglicised—"The Twentieth Legion--the Victorious--to the Nymphs and Fountains." The Altar is of red sand Stone, and was found embedded in sandy soil, surrounded by a heap of stones, no doubt having formerly forming the temple in which it was kept. Its height is four feet; the middle of the column two feet; the base and capital about two feet three inches. The *subulum* is an inch in depth. It is conjectured that the fountain or well to which, with its guardian *Nymphs*, it was dedicated, has been filled up, as there is none in the immediate vicinity, but the field abounds with springs of water, which spontaneously burst forth in several streams. The altar was detached from the pedestal, a rough piece of similar stone, nearly 20 inches long and 6 inches thick, and was in a half inclined position supported by the soil. The inscription is the same as in front, with the exception of the word *Fon-*

tibus, which is cut FONTBUS. It has been supposed the letters V. V. allude to a vow made previous to the erection by the Dedicators, and should be rendered *tum Vovit*; but when the uniformity of the appellation of these initials is adverted to, there can be no doubt but what they are descriptive of the *Valens V. the Valiant, the Victorious*. Supposing the Altar discovered to have been erected when the Twelfth Legion first arrived here, it is 1778 years old; if they quitted England, 1491 years—taking a medium may be stated that this Altar is 1634 years old.

That singular elevation, called Tunsted Hill, about ten miles from Congleton; was the scite of a village in the Saxon æra.

About ten miles from Chester, rises an insulated mass of sandstone, called Beeston Rock, the height is 366 feet. On its summit, in proud isolation still reign the stupendous ruins of a Castle, erected in the thirteenth century, by Randle, Earl of Chester. In the civil war of the Charles's, it was a place of considerable importance, and sustained a siege of 18 days.

Thirteen miles from Chester are the ruins of a Castle,* originally built by Hugh Lupus, first Earl of Chester. Not far distant are the splendid remains of Rock Savage Hall.

Monastic Ruins are not very numerous† in this county, but Baronial Remains are frequent. There are also innumerable specimens of the ancient architecture of the Cheshire timber and plaister Mansions, as Adlington Hall, Marton Hall, Peel Hall, Pennington Hall, &c. To the Editor of this publication there is peculiar beauty in this style of building, and his early ideas of architectural grandeur are assisted with the recollection of the black and white mansions of the Cheshire "Squires." In houses of this construction, the parents of his father and of his mother.

* See Hulbert's Stranger's Friend.

† Of Vale Royal Abbey little now remains of its former splendour.

From the family of the Mottersheads of Mottram,* on his mother's side, he is lineally descended. The remains of his venerated grandfather, with other branches of the family, now repose in Prestbury church yard.

ANTIQUITIES OF LANCASHIRE.

(The Same.)

THE County of Lancaster is more celebrated for its great Industry, Wealth and Intelligence, than splendid Remains of Ancient times. Though various parts of the county present vestiges of Roman power and art, Monastic, and Baronial splendour.

Ribchester, now reduced to the humble aspect of a village, was once a Roman station of importance. At this place was found, in the year 1796, some of the most curious vestiges of the Romans ever discovered in Britain. Amongst these, a helmet finely sculptured; the remains of a vase; a bust of Minerva; a circular basin of earthenware, &c. have obtained great notice, and form part of the Townleyan Collection, now in the British Museum. The circumstance of their discovery is thus related by Charles Townley, Esq. in a letter to the Rev. John Brand, Secretary to the Society of Antiquarians.

"These ancient remains, composed chiefly of bronze, were found during the summer of 1796, at Ribchester, the ancient Coccium of the itinerary of Antoninus, situated upon the banks of the river Ribble, in the county of Lancaster, by the son of one Joseph Walton, in a hollow that had been made in the waste land at the side of the road leading to the church, and near the bend of the river. The boy, about thirteen years old,

* In the year 1650, the Higher House and the Lower House belonged to two branches of the family. Willet Hall, in the township of Butley, was at one time in the possession of the Mottersheads. In the reign of Edw. III. the third portion of the manor of Alderley was conveyed to the Family of the Grosvenors, by Richard Mottershead.

being at play in that hollow, rubbed accidentally upon the helmet at the depth of about nine feet from the surface of the ground. When the helmet was extracted the other articles were found with it, deposited in a heap of red sand, which formed a cube of three feet. As no stratum of that, or any other kind of sand, appeared in this ground, it is probable, that when these remains were placed there, the sand was thrown amongst them to preserve them in a dry state and from rust, but they are in general much defaced by the corrosive effect of sand upon copper, and the moisture of the ground in which they lay. These are all the circumstances, relative to this discovery, which I could collect from the before-mentioned Joseph Walton, the person who dug these antiquities out of the ground, and sold them to me on December 8th, 1797."

Some years ago, in sinking a cellar in Church-street, Lancaster, quantities of fragments of Roman earthenware were thrown out, many of them finely glazed, and elegantly marked with emblematic figures; also some copper coins were found, and an entire lamp, with a turned-up perforated handle to hang to it, the nozzle of which was black from use. At the depth of two yards were likewise discovered a great number of human bones, with burnt ashes, a wall of great thickness, and a well, filled with rubbish of the same kind; probably leading to a vault where other human remains were deposited: but the curious must ever regret that no further search was made into its use and contents.

In this town have also been discovered many other interesting antiquities, coins, &c.

AT MANCHESTER, the ancient Mancunium, many vestiges of Roman buildings, sepulchral vessels, &c. have been discovered. Mr. Whitaker mentions a curious monumental stone, found in the beginning of the seventeenth century, near the western side of the station, the inscription on which has been preserved in the archives of the Collegiate Church and is inserted in Camden's *Britannia*, as follows:

COHO. I. FRISIN
O MASAVONIS
P. XXIII

It was an honorary monument, erected over the grave of Marcuro Savo, who was a young Frisian officer in the first Frisian cohort, and died here in his 24th year.

"The town of Manchester, (says the same respectable and intelligent antiquary and historian) was erected, not as the old and central parts of it are now placed, at the distance nearly of a mile from the Castle Field, but in the nearer and more immediate vicinity of the station. No tradition, however, ascertains the particular site; and in the neighbourhood of a great town, and a multiplicity of commercial avocations, little attention is paid to the remains of antiquity, or the whispers of tradition concerning them. But there is a small region which encompasses the Castle Field on every side, very frequently mentioned in the records, and denominated ALD PORT, or Old Borough. Somewhere, therefore, within the compass of this district did the town originally stand. And a little fold of houses remains in it to the present period, which in all the deeds of the place carries the actual appellation of ALDPORTON, or Old Borough Town. The town, therefore, was settled on the ground immediately contiguous to these buildings; and betwixt them and the Castle Field is an area of 16 or 17 acres, the genuine ground plot of the ancient Manchester. This lies immediately to the north of the station, and extends up to the new church in the Camp Field. Being in the immediate skirts of the town, the plough must have long and frequently ransacked the ground; and the many antiquities which it called into light, would either be never attended to at all, or be seen, admired, and forgotten. But the soil of the southern part is merely a body of adventitious earth, fragments of bricks, pieces of hewn stones, and remnants of urns. Huge blocks of millstone grit, such as I have frequently noticed in the Roman foundations of Castle Field, and had, I suppose, been brought down with them by the floods of the Medlock, have been recently dug up there with their mortar adhering to them. And the whole level appears to have been traversed with streets of regular pavement in a variety of directions across it.

"Upon that particular site then, which is termi-

ated by a high bank, and a morass below it on the west, by the great fosse of the station on the south, the present highway or Old Port Lane, on the east, and Tickle-street or Camp Field on the north, was the town of Manchester originally erected. And upon this plot, then in the depth of the wood of Arden, were the Sittantii of this region induced by Agricola to erect a town. They felled the trees, which from the first habitation of the island had been the only occupants of the soil; they laid open the area, then first laid open, to the influence of the sun and winds, and they constructed their houses with the timber. The town would naturally be erected along the course of the way to Ribchester: commencing at first near the trench of the station, extending in one direct street along the road, and afterwards forking off into others. And the ways of towns originally received the Roman appellation of streets, because our houses were constructed along the line, and the passages between them were carried upon the ridge of the Roman highways or streets."

"Such was the spot which Agricola selected for the position of the town of Manchester; and such was the commencement of a city, that was to become so conspicuous afterwards: to lengthen into fair streets, and open into graceful squares; to contain assembled thousands within her circuit, and extend her commerce beyond the bounds of the ocean. It was founded very early in the reign of Titus, about the time of the first famous eruption from Vesuvius, in the destruction of Herculaneum, and the months of September and October, in the ever-memorable year of 79."

Upon the departure of the Romans their military works became occupied by the Britons, who resided in the neighbourhood of this colony. From them, however, they soon afterwards passed into the possession of the Saxons; who, about the year 627, built a parish church on the banks of the Irwell, dedicated to St. Mary, which drew round it a new town, the origin of the present Manchester. Towards the latter end of the ninth century, this new town, which had until then been increasing in population and wealth, shared the fate of this part of the kingdom, and was nearly destroyed by

the Danes. It was soon after rebuilt, and about the year 920 fortified and garrisoned by Edward, King of the Mercians, who also granted to the town many feudal privileges. The church of St. Mary above noticed, and a church of St. Michael, are both mentioned in Domesday Book to be in the manor or *hundred of Mancestre*. The former was built in a field, supposed by Mr. Whitaker to have contained six acres, and to have been the site of the present St. Ann's square and Exchange-street. On the erection of this church a few houses were soon erected on the way to it from the baronial court; and from that road towards the church. These houses were the origin of the street now called Deans-gate, and that still called St. Mary's Gate, which, without doubt, retains its original name.

Leland, who travelled through this kingdom in the reign of Henry VIII. mentions "Mancestre as the fairest and best builded, quickest, and most populous town of Lancashire." He says "it has but one church, but that is collegiate, and almost throughout double isled with very hard square stone."

This Collegiate or Christ's Church, also called the Old Church, is a fine Gothic structure, richly ornamented in the cathedral style. On the exterior, according to the taste of the 15th century, are numerous grotesque figures projecting from the roof. Part of the seats in the church are free to the parishioners. From the south porch to the north door the length of the cross aisle is 100 feet, and the whole breadth of the church, including Brown's chapel, is 120 feet; from east to west, the whole length of the building is 216 feet. The tower has a very handsome appearance, and the whole church has been considerably improved, the inside work having been renewed, and the walls rebuilt. The parish church of Manchester was made a collegiate by Lord de La Warr, who obtained a license for the purpose in 1422, and endowed it liberally. The college was dissolved by Edward VI. but refounded by queen Mary, and has since continued a rich ecclesiastical establishment. Its clergy are a warden, four fellows, and two chaplains; and their revenues are ample, from the rise in the value of property.

Manchester is the centre of the cotton trade, extending around it in all directions to Furness and Derby on the north and south, and to Leeds and Liverpool on the east and west. It is, besides, the general depot from which the raw material is distributed through all parts of the district, and in which all this scattered merchandise is again collected, when finished, into a centre to be again expanded over a wider circle : to be sent to Hull, Liverpool and London, and thence all over the world.

The spinning trade is becoming every year more and more extensive, and considerable quantities of yarn are annually exported.

The weaving is also carried on to a great extent; and the invention of power looms, or looms worked by machinery, has extended considerably. But the erection and keeping up of this various and complicated machinery, which is constantly at work, is itself a source of very great business in and around Manchester. This gives rise to great iron foundries, and other works of a similar kind, and to the invention even of new machines to facilitate its operations. Besides the weaving and spinning, the printing, dyeing and bleaching businesses are carried on to a very great extent in and around Manchester. The hat manufacture is also very extensive, as are several well managed sulphuric acid, or oil of vitriol works, besides a great number of other manufactories. By means of the canals which proceed from it to different parts of the country, Manchester enjoys a communication by water both with the eastern and western seas, being situated directly in the line of navigation which here extends across the island from shore to shore, while it is equally open to the north and south by various branches from the main trunk. Manchester is governed by a boroughreeve, two constables, a deputy constable, and a number of inferior officers. Although the largest town in the kingdom, it sends no member to parliament. The Population, for successive years, of Manchester and Salford, is given as follows—In 1757, 19,800; 1773, 42,900; 1788, 50,000; 1791, 70,000; 1811, 98,000; 1821, 133,788.

Perhaps no town in the kingdom can boast a more

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rapid increase of inhabitants than Manchester, and few if any will be found to contain an equal number of patriotic and enlightened individuals. The whole population seems to be imbued with a general thirst for knowledge and improvement. The Editor of these volumes feels no inconsiderable degree of pride, in being able to claim Manchester as the place of his nativity, though his first residence in it was confined to the short period of three months. From the age of 18 to 22, it however, again, became the place of his abode—a delightful improving period. Never will he forget the pleasure with which he daily visited *Old Hopps's** Stall; nor the exquisite raptures the purchase of a Book of value would inspire. In Manchester he has subsequently found

"FRIENDSHIP—

"Unmoved by interest and unwarp'd by fate."

* John Hopps, about the year 1794, stood behind a small portable Book Stall, (an old door laid on a wheel barrow) generally in the neighbourhood of Market-street. By industry he acquired stock sufficient to furnish a small shop, and had a stall on Saturdays, in the entrance from Market street, to the then new shambles. In time he acquired a decent competency and retired from business; but unfortunately entrusting a considerable portion of his property into unfaithful hands, and being afterwards prompted by a desire to befriend those whom he conceived had a claim upon his assistance, he became surety to a considerable amount, suffered the entire loss of the residue of the hard earnings of his life; and was confined for sometime in Lancaster castle. A son of this worthy man, if he be still alive, contributes to the support of his venerable Father. Manchester is certainly deeply indebted to Mr. Hopps.—He sold books cheap, thereby presenting to all classes an opportunity of acquiring knowledge at a reasonable cost.

SELECT ANTIQUITIES IN NORTH WALES.

(Pugh's Cambria Depicta, the Editor, &c.)

THE circles of stones*, of which many remain in North Wales, were the temples of the druids, in which they performed their religious rites; they were gene-

* While this article was in the Press, the Editor, in company with an esteemed intelligent friend, the present tenant of Middleton Hall, visited a Druidical (probably *Bardic*) Circle, on Middleton Hill, county of Salop, four miles from Montgomery, and sixteen from Shrewsbury. It, no doubt, originally consisted of twelve upright stones; vestiges of eleven still remain, two in an upright position, and about six feet above the surface of the ground; the rest are either mutilated or almost completely imbedded in the earth. The diameter of the circle is about 90 feet. This circle is known in the neighbourhood by the name of Mitchell's Fold. The traditionary story of which is—that within this circle an old man of the name of Mitchell kept a cow, which cow was indued with so much benevolence for the human race, that she contributed to the supply of almost all the wants of the surrounding peasantry, constantly suffering herself to be milked for any one's benefit; and whatever was the quantity required by the person who was milking her, she supplied it. No vessel, however capacious, was suffered to return empty, nor to be only *partially* filled; till, at last, an old wicked hag of a witch, jealous of and hating so great a good, brought her pail and milked the generous beast; at the same time threw a spell over her, which prevented her from ever afterwards supplying her owner, or the neighbourhood with a single pailful.

About two miles from this place, nearer Shrewsbury, in a field belonging to Mr. John Onions, and adjoining the road between Hope's Gate and the Lady House, is a British Tumulus, on which several oak trees seem to flourish, and to protect the ashes of some warrior, or more probably warriors, whose history is as silent as their dust.

rally surrounded by fine oaks. A Carnedd is a great heap of stones, sometimes encircled by upright ones. Some years since, one was discovered near Lord Uxbridge's seat, three feet wide, and seven feet high; in the centre was a rude stone pillar, which helped to support a roof, consisting of one immense stone, which measured ten feet in diameter: on the sides were benches of the same material, with human bones upon them, which, at the touch, dissipated into dust. These edifices were the repositories of the dead. A Cromlech is another species of druidical remains; it consists of three, or sometimes more, upright stones, with one large stone placed upon them; the whole being similar to those rooms found in the Carnedd. It has often been asserted, that the Cromlechs were the altars upon which the druids performed their acts of immolation, or sacrifices of human victims taken in war; but to this opinion there are insurmountable objections.* To those who can suppose the sacrifice was performed under them, it is objected, that many of these are too low to admit the officiating priest to go through the ceremony; and if, again, as has been the opinion, it is supposed that this act could have been performed upon the top stone, another potent reason starts up, and says, that the greatest number of these stones, from their sloping and often serrated summits, could never admit either the fire, the priest, or the victim upon them. The most rational idea respecting them is, that they were, like the Carnedd just mentioned, the sepulchral monuments of the priests and philosophers of the ancient Britons; and no doubt were the origin of our church-yard tomb-stones.

The Tenets of druidism in Britain, it is justly supposed, were coeval with the first inhabitants, and the ingenious Mr. Llwyd, is of opinion, that "the great body of men, known in different parts of the world by the designation of *Brachnas*, *Celts*, and *Druids*, were members of one great original society, nearly in unison

* See Note on page 114, of this volume.

with respect to their leading principles: these were, the unity of the Deity—his perfections and attributes—the transmigration and immortality of souls—the origin of the world—and its tendency to dissolution.”

When Suetonius landed in flat-bottomed boats at a place called Pont yr Yscraphie, or the Valley of Skiffs, he had to oppose an army in close array, well accoutred, among whom were a great number of women attired in black, running about like so many Furies, brandishing their torches in the air; while the druids, with uplifted hands to Heaven, were calling down vengeance upon the invaders: but the tactics of the Britons were ineffectual to their deliverance; the Romans conquered, placed a garrison in the towns, cut down the groves of the druids, and butchered numbers of them in cold blood.

In many parts of England and Wales are found, in an erect position, very massy and high stones, either singly or two or three together; and, from their unhewn rudeness and solid character, together with the absence of all tradition concerning them, many of these are supposed to have been raised by the ancient Britons. The custom of commemorating events of distinguished importance by single natural pillars, is ascertained to have existed in the very first ages of society: and is so simple and obvious a mode of celebration, that we may readily believe to have been practised by the same early Britons who raised the Carnedd to the memory of the dead, and worshiped the Deity in the midst of a stony circle. Three stones, probably erected by the Britons on a similar occasion, occur at Trelech, in Monmouthshire, and may be adduced as a specimen of the monument consisting of several pillars. These are of unequal height, the tallest being 15 feet above the ground; and they stand too nearly in a right line to have formed a part of a circle used for religious purposes.

It is, likewise, probable that single stones were often erected as memorials of civil contracts

The funeral monuments of the earliest ages of society, are calculated, by their simplicity of construction, to survive the sculptured stone, and engraved

brass, of periods more refined. These we know consisted, amongst many nations, of heaps of stones, or earth, raised over the body of the deceased; and such we find, from unequivocal testimony, to have been the practice with the ancient Britons.

It is evident, says Mr. Whitaker, that the custom of raising barrows over the deceased, survived the introduction of Christianity. That it continued among many of the Britons after the departure of the Romans is also unquestionable; and, perhaps, it was not entirely relinquished before the middle of the eighth century, at which time Cuthbert, Archbishop of Canterbury, obtained leave to make cemeteries within cities. The small earthy mound still heaped over the remains of those who had trodden a humble path in life, is evidently a diminutive representative of the ancient barrow.

Of the Tumuli or Barrows* of England and Wales there exists so great a similarity, that those which have been noticed by our valued correspondent,† as abounding in Wiltshire, may be considered in a great degree as representing the whole.

In the neighbourhood of Newborough in the Isle of Anglesey are several remains of monumental stones, altars, and sacred groves, of the ancient druids; and hence it has been styled by many *classical ground*. Mr. Rowland, in his *Mona Antiqua Restaurata*, has labour-

* Since the article on Shropshire Antiquities was completed, the Editor has seen a very considerable Tumulus at Stapleton, about 5 miles from Shrewsbury, in the centre of which, some time ago, as he was informed by an intelligent farmer residing near the spot, there was discovered a large funeral Urn, which the good sense and feeling of the proprietor of the estate, Mrs. Powis, of Berwick, directed should remain in its repose. She has also prevented her tenant from removing the Tumulus for the purpose of covering his fields with the soil.

† Mr. J. F. Hulbert.

ed to prove that Anglesey was the Metropolitan seat of druidism ; a position which Mr. W. Owen has lately controverted, assigning that honour, without doubt or hesitation, to Avebury in Wiltshire.

A spot called Tre yr Dryw, in the neighbourhood of Newborough, was the Arch-druid's abode, where the remains are yet to be seen. To enumerate and describe all the relics of druidism, now visible in Anglesey, and other parts of Wales, would be endless and foreign to the purpose of this work ; and as there are but few readers unacquainted with their history, we deem it unnecessary to introduce any other than the preceding.

Just before reaching Cerrig y Druidion, Denbighshire, the Holyhead road passes within a few hundred yards of Pen Gwerwyn, a hill on which are still to be seen the remains of a camp, said, by Pennant, to be that of the British King Caractacus, who retreated here after his defeat by Ostorius. The outworks, trench and rampart may still be distinctly traced ; and the foundations of the wall probably exist below, though covered over with green sward. The area on the summit is a level plain. The history of Caractacus is well known. Aregwedd Voeddig, daughter of Ararwy, an intrepid British Amazon, basely betrayed him into the hands of the Romans ; and this act of perfidy was denominated one of the three secret treasons of Britain. Caractacus, in the year 51, was carried prisoner to Rome, and there conducted himself before the Emperor Claudius, with such manly and magnanimous deportment, as struck his enemies with admiration ; they released him from his chains, and treated him with kindness and respect.

Near Holywell is a Roman Pharos on a Hill, called Garreg, or the Rock, which overlooks the sea. It is a very strong single round tower, and has square windows with frames of free-stone. From the base the building tapers a little, by three regular gradations, lessening as they advance to the summit : there are also two large entrances into it.

Upon a high conoid hill, one mile from Llangollen, on the right hand passing through to Holyhead, stands Castell Dinas Bran. The building appears to have

been about 300 feet long and 150 feet broad. On one side it was defended by trenches cut out of the rock.—The present remains are a few scattered walls. Its architecture indicates that it was founded by the Britons—but the period of its erection as well as its founder's name, are buried in oblivion. In 1257, it afforded an asylum from the fury of his enraged countrymen, to Gryffydd ap Madoc, who basely sided with Henry II. and betrayed his country. In 1390, this castle was inhabited by Myfanwy Fechan, a most beautiful and accomplished female, descended from the house of Tudor Trevor. She was beloved by Hoel ap Eynion Llygliw, an illustrious bard, who addressed her in a charming ode.

Near Llangollen 2 miles on the road to Ruthin, is Vale Crucis Abbey. This grand and highly picturesque ruin is delightfully situated in a vale, receiving an addition to its majestic appearance from the appropriate gloom of the surrounding scenery, which cannot fail to impress the mind of the beholder with reverential awe; it was founded in the year 1200, and notwithstanding the lower part has been converted into a farm house, it still retains many of its monastic features. The church appears to have been cruciform; its east and west ends together with part of the transept, are still in existence and exhibit a specimen of the pointed style of architecture which prevailed through the whole structure; at the same time that the ivy-clad walls, partly concealed by tall ash trees growing within the area of the building, afford as fine a picturesque object as the painter could imagine or desire.—Near the above is the pillar of Eliseg, a sepulchral stone raised by Concenn to the memory of his great-grandfather Eliseg, who was slain in a battle fought with the Saxons near Chester in the year 607. It is a round column, said to have been originally 12 feet high, but does not now exceed 8.—Not far from this are the ruins of the palace of Owen Glyndwr; scarcely any vestiges of which are however now in existence, but we cannot allow the spot to pass unnoticed, as the individual to whom it formerly belonged forms so conspicuous a figure in Welsh history. He here lived the life of a little sovereign in his own

dominions, till a quarrel arose between him and Lord Grey of Ruthin Castle, which lasted many years; in this Glyndwr was backed by his faithful Welsh, and Grey by Henry IV. who sacrificed by this means 100,000 lives, besides burning numerous habitations and destroying immense property, which excited so great a degree of animosity, that it is not yet wholly extinguished.

Glyndwr is said to have attended divine service at Corwen church, where a door-way is shewn, now made up, through which he entered to his pew in the chancel. Upon the Berwyn mountain behind the church, is a place called Glyndwr's seat, whence superstition says, he threw a dagger which fell on a stone and left an impression of its entire length, half an inch deep, which stone forms part of the door-way just mentioned. From Glyndwr's seat among the rocks, is a most charming prospect. The rich and delightful vale of Corwen expands to view, with the Dee in the centre. Here Glyndwr might view nearly 40 square miles of his own land.

Near Corwen, is Rug, or Reeg, the seat of Colonel Vaughan, whom it is said has in his possession the drinking cups of Owen Glendwr; the dagger of Brogyntyn and his cup, besides several articles of antiquity. Here it was that Gruffydd ab Couan, King of Wales, after his victory at Carno in Montgomeryshire, in 1077, was treacherously taken and confined by Murian Goch. Hugh Lupus had him conveyed to Chester, where he remained twelve years in prison: but at length the brave youth Cynric Hir, of these parts, undertook his release. He went to Chester under pretext of purchasing necessities, and watching an opportunity when the keepers of the castle were feasting, conveyed his prince away on his back to a secure retreat, notwithstanding that the king was laden with heavy chains.

At Machynlleth is still, or lately was, to be seen the house in which Glyndwr held his parliament. Its exterior appearance is barn-like, and it is now used as a granary, &c. with the exception of one end, which is occupied as a miserable dwelling-house. Its interior

exhibits great age: at the back is a flight of stone stairs in ruins, leading into the great room, in which are carved ribs, &c. of timber. Glyndwyr convened the states of his country at this place, for the purpose of establishing himself on the throne, and causing his title to it to be acknowledged: he was accordingly crowned, and reached the zenith of his ambition.

Such are the number and almost endless variety of interesting memorials of 'Olden days,' to be met with in the Principality, that nothing but a Work devoted expressly to their description, can in any degree do them justice. The ingenious and industrious Mr. Nicholson, of Stourport, in his 'Cambrian Traveller's Guide,' price eighteen shillings, has embodied a very ample fund of useful and pleasing information, not to be met with in any other publication with which the editor is acquainted. As a pleasing, though expensive, work, on North Wales, few surpass Pugh's 'Cambria Depicta.'

MISCELLANEOUS ANTIQUITIES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND IRELAND:

*(From a very interesting Manuscript Volume of Tours
by Thomas Stringer, Esq. M. D. of Shrewsbury.)*

GLASTONBURY.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

GLASTONBURY Abbey is justly boasted to be one of the oldest in England. The town itself took its origin from the abbey. Here vestiges of ancient magnificence appear on every side. Mouldings of portals, capitals of pilasters, and stone ribs of roofs, are stuck in the walls of the ignoble residences of modern times; and scarcely can the traveller step, without being reminded by some fragment of masonry, or some ancient mansion with its arched portal and its spandril windows, that Glastonbury has suffered a most lamentable reverse of fortune. In our way to the abbey we passed the market cross, an old polygon structure. A little to the south of this, lie the remains of the abbey, on the left-

land side of the road, leading from Wells to Bridge-water.

Glastonbury derives its origin, (says Camden) from Joseph of Arimathea, the same who buried Christ's body. Who, when he came to preach the Gospel in Great Britain, as it is asserted he did by the Romish Legends, he landed on the Isle of Avilon, and fixing his staff in the ground, (a dry thorn Saplin, which had been his companion through all the countries he had passed,) fell asleep. When he awoke, he found to his great surprise, that his staff had taken root, and was covered with white blossoms. From this miracle, however, he drew a very natural conclusion, that as the use of his staff was thus taken from him, it was ordained that he should take up his abode in this place. Here, therefore he built a chapel, which by the piety of succeeding times, increased into this magnificent foundation. The ground on which the Abbey of Glastonbury stood is higher than the neighbouring district, which is a perfect flat, insomuch that tradition says, it was formerly covered with the sea. If that was the case, the ground which the abbey occupied, if not an island, was at least a peninsula. To this day it bears the name of the Island of Avilon; and the meadows around it seem plainly to have been washed and relinquished by the sea. The Abbey with its offices and buildings, completely occupied the large enclosure. But of these edifices a small part of the great church of the abbey, fragments of St. Joseph's Chapel, the the abbots' kitchen, and some unintelligible and dilapidated walls, are all which now survive.

Of the great church of the monastery, a great part of the south side, and some part of the east end may be traced; a little of the cross isle; and a remnant of the tower; all of the purest and most elegant Gothic. A long list of heroes, of kings and queens, mingle their dust under the ruins of this great church, amongst whom the patriotic Arthur must not be forgotten. Borne to Glastonbury after the fatal battle of Camlan, in which he perished, the chieftain was buried before the high altar, where he slept for ages neglected and unknown. A tradition, however, of his death and

place of sepulture was preserved among the British Bards who took shelter in the mountains of Wales, after the conquest of their country by the Saxons. One of these poets, in a legend which he recited to Henry*

* "Henry II. the first of the Plantagenet line, being in the last year of his reign, at Pembroke, and hearing there, a Welsh bard singing to his harp the story of Arthur, concluding with an account of his death and burial in the church-yard of Glastonbury, between two pyramids; the king instantly gave orders that the matter should be enquired into, and the body dug up. This was done as the king directed; and at the depth of seven feet was found a vast stone, whereon was fastened a leaden cross, with this inscription on the inside: *Hic Jacet Sepultus Inclytus Rex Arturius in Insula Avalonia*; i. e. "Here lies the famous King Arthur, buried in the isle of Avalon." Digging still lower, they found the king's body in the trunk of a tree, his beautiful queen lying by him, with long flowing hair, in colour bright as gold, which however sunk into dust when touched. The king's bones were very large sized; and in his skull there were ten wounds or more, all cicatrized, except that of which he died. This discovery was made in the year 1189, as Giraldus Cambrensis tells us, who saw these bones, and examined the whole matter carefully. There was also a table containing this story, set up in the monastery of Glastonbury, and the leaden cross with the inscription remained there till the dissolution of the monastery, where it was seen by the great antiquary Leland, but what is become of it since does not appear."—*Encyclopædia Perthensis*.

"About six years ago was found at King's Holm, half a mile from Gloucester city, six feet under the surface of the earth, where there once stood a King's palace, chapel, and burying-ground, the remains of King Arthur in an immense large stone coffin, three tons weight, seven feet long, ten inches thick, with a lead coffin inclosed therein, both ancient and curious, not being soldered, but hammered into its present form, containing the skeleton of King Arthur, two ancient small

the Second discovered the long revealed secret. The length of the church within the walls was 536 feet. The length of the middle cross-aisle or transept 220. St. Joseph's Chapel stands near the west end of the great church, and is much more entire. Its architecture is elegant. The stile is mixed, partly Anglo Norman, or (as it is commonly called) Saxon, and partly Gothic, both perfect in their kind. A range of windows, rather loftily placed, runs round the building; their arches are of semicircular form, but included within sharply pointed Gothic cornices: beneath these, at proper intervals, and equal distances, light taper shafts support a course of false *Saxon* arches; which intersecting each other, form well proportioned Gothic ones, and perhaps point out the origin of this much disputed style. The little ornamental cornices edging the arches of the windows are in the zig zag manner, but being of what is called *raised work*, that is, separated by the mass of stone by the labour of the chissel, the light is admitted through these perforations, and an unequalled degree of airiness and elegance thrown by these means, over the whole structure. Nor is it possible to pass the northern entrance without admiration, for here the builder seems to have exerted all the efforts of his art, in order to produce an architectural wonder. The retiring arches which form the door-way, are supported by slender pillars, surmounted with magnificent capitals, the moulding separated from each other by four compartments of costly carving, all which exhibit splendid but tasty running patterns of foliage and fruit, tendrils and flowers, entwining each other in the richest profusion. A handsome crypt runs under the eastern part

copper spoons (one of which is broken) a broken red pot mask, a clay urn or two, of Roman manufacture, rather small, with other Roman curiosities, well worth the curious traveller's eye and attention, particularly all antiquarians. These ancient curiosities are now in the possession of Mr. Joseph Ford, at the village of Newport, about half way betwixt Gloucester and Bristol."—*Liverpool Kaleidoscope*, April 23, 1822.

of the chapel. It is no little addition to its beauty, that ivy is spread over the walls, in such just proportions as to adorn without defacing them.

On the south-west of St. Joseph's Chapel, stands the Gate of Strangers, which seems to have been a heavy building, void of elegance and beauty.

The Abbots lodge was a large building. It ranged parallel with the south side of the church; and was nearly entire within the memory of man. It was a suite of seven apartments on a floor; but nothing hardly can now be traced. In the year 1714 it was taken down to answer some purposes of economy.

Hard by where the Abbot's lodge stood, are the remains of the Kitchen, it is both a curious remnant of antiquity, and a noble monument of monkish hospitality, in better preservation than the other buildings of the monastery. Its walls, four feet thick, and yet strengthened with massy buttresses. The building is square outside, the inside an octagon, four chimnies taking off the corners of the square. It has two doors and measures twenty two feet from one to the other, and a hundred and seventy from the bottom to the top.

These are all the visible remains of this great house. Foundations are traced far and wide, where it is conjectured the cloisters ran; the monk's cells, the schools, the dormitories, halls, and other offices. The whole together has been an amazing combination of various buildings. It had the appearance indeed of a considerable town, containing perhaps the largest society under one government, and the most extensive foundation that ever appeared in England. From an early period pilgrims resorted to it from all parts of the kingdom. Its fraternity, it is said, consisted of five hundred monks, besides nearly as many retainers on the abbey. About four hundred children were educated and maintained. Five hundred travellers have been lodged at once within its walls; while the poor from every side of the country were received and fed. This great house possessed the amplest revenues of any religious house in England.

NETLEY ABBEY.

SOUTHAMPTONSHIRE.

(From the Same.)

FEW would visit Southampton without making an excursion to Netley. The still beautiful ruins of Netley Abbey lie about six miles from Southampton, by land, and four by water, on the gentle declivity of a hill a small distance from Southampton river. They are so surrounded by venerable woods, as scarcely to be discovered before they are approached ; but towards the river, there are some openings that every now and then allow a glimpse. The profusion of luxuriant ivy which covers the mouldering walls, the shrubs and trees which occupy the area of the church, where numerous dead repose, under fragments of elegant architecture, and masses of ruins, the magnificence and extent of those parts which are still standing, compose a picture equally interesting and sublime.

Such a scene reads many an impressive lesson on the vanity of human labours, and the uncertain hopes of fame, erected on such perishable foundations.

The excursions to these ruins are generally taken by water. The fountain court, a large area with some trees in it, and having its walls clamped with ivy, first receives us. On the right of this court is an apartment, which was probably the refectory ; and adjoining to it are the pantry and kitchen. The latter is a large vaulted room, with a curious fire place, opposite to which, a subterraneous passage is pointed out, supposed to lead to the neighbouring fort, one of those erected by Henry the VIII. which has suffered less from time than the abbey. Returning through the refectory, visit the Chapter House, and passing two smaller rooms enter the Abbey Church, by the cross-aisle. Part of the church still remains ; its beautiful eastern window is universally admired ; and, till within a few years, some portion of the fine arched ceiling were standing.

SCONE ABBEY AND PALACE.

SCOTLAND.

(From the Same.)

THE celebrated palace of Scone is interesting, as being anciently the residence of the Scottish kings, the place of their coronation, and the scene of many splendid actions. Here formerly stood an abbey, which was founded by Alexander the 1st. in the year 1114, and dedicated by him to the Holy Trinity, and St. Michael the archangel. It is said to have been originally a seat of the Culdees, and was afterwards filled with canons of St. Augustine. At the reformation, a mob from Dundee and Perth, rendered furious by the preaching of Knox, and impelled by private resentment, as well as the hope of plunder, destroyed both this ancient abbey and palace, which were very extensive. The abbey wall, as appears from the foundations which have been dug up, inclosed at least twelve acres of ground. Long before the foundation of this abbey, Scone appears to have been a place of note. Some writers call it the ancient capital of the Picts; but it was certainly the chief seat of the Kings of Scotland, as early as the time of Kenneth.

In the church of this abbey was preserved the famous stone, which was said to have first served Jacob as his pillow, and was afterwards transported into Spain, where it was used as a seat of justice by Gethalus, a contemporary with Moses. It afterwards found its way to Dunstaffnage, and continued there as a coronation chair till the reign of Kenneth II. who removed it to Scone, and on it every Scottish king was crowned, till the year 1296, when Edward I. took it to England, and it continues one of the appendages of royalty in Westminster Abbey. According to an ancient prophecy, wherever this stone was, there would also be the seat of the Empire; this prophecy is expressed in the following distich, and is said to have contributed to reconcile many bigots of the Scotch nation to the union:

*Ni fallat fatum, Scoti quo cunque lo catum,
Invenient lapidem, regnare terienter ibidem.*

It is not certain whether the present house, which is

a west of Lord Stormont, stands on any part of the foundation of the former palace, though there is some reason for believing that it does. This house is pleasantly situated on an extensive lawn, sloping gently to the Tay, and surrounded by fine plantations. It is in that style of building which prevailed about two centuries ago, and which is more remarkable for its strength than its elegance. It contains some apartments which are large, particularly a gallery on the east side, the length of which is 160 feet, and the breadth only 18, so that it instantly appears very disproportioned. The ceiling is arched, and covered with painting. On the one side is represented the hunting of a stag, in all its different stages: and on the other, the diversion of hawking, and hunting the wild boar. James VI. appears in every scene, attended by the nobles of his court, many of the portraits of which were drawn from life. The spaces between the different scenes are filled up with the family arms, fruits, flowers, and other ornaments. These paintings appear to have had considerable merit, but are now much defaced. This gallery, and some other apartments, particularly the audience chamber, remain in their original state, but others have been modernized. Among these last is a very handsome dining room, and a drawing room. In the former is a superb chimney piece, on the upper part of which are the arms of Britain, and below those of the family of Stormont. In this room are portraits of the late King and Queen, as large as life, and in some of the other rooms there are several good portraits.

In an apartment on the west side of the house, which is called the Queen's Room, is a bed of flowered crimson velvet, which is said to have been the work of the accomplished and unfortunate Mary, during her confinement in the castle of Lochleven. In a room on the north end of the gallery, is the canopy of state used by the Earl of Mansfield, when ambassador to the court of Versailles, which is now converted into a bed.

IRISH ANTIQUITIES.

(From the same, viz. Dr. Stringer's Manuscript.)

ON the lands of Ballymac Scanlan, in the county of Louth, is a large Rath, and on it a great stone, having in the centre a cross with four smaller ones. About thirty yards from the Rath is an entrance into a cave, running under the Rath, but it has not been explored. Tradition calls this the tomb of M'Scanlan. At the same place are three great pillars supporting a ponderous impost : this was the pensile monument of the northerns. It was called the Giant's Load, being brought altogether from a neighbouring mountain, by a Giant, according to tradition.

At Templebrien in the county of Cork, is a circle of nine upright stones, placed around a tenth in the centre, and about twenty feet to the north-west stands an eleventh.

In the early ages of christianity churches were not common, the Bishop and Clergy resided together in Cathedra, which was the Episcopal see, and where afterwards a cathedral church was constructed. This was founded on the ruins of some celebrated pagan temple, as that of Kildare in a druidic grove ; that of Derry is the same ; those of Roscarbury and Lismore near druidic caves, and Cloghar in a druidic stone circle. The case was the same in every ancient see in Ireland.

Stone roofed churches, of the ancient Irish stone, are in the eastern part of Ireland, called Mandræ. The word originally imported a sheep-fold, and was applied to those monastic buildings, wherein the archimandrite presided over his disciples, as the shepherd superintended the flock in his fold.

Round Towers were erected about the same time as the stone roof chapels, and were the work of the Irish. While some authors have attributed these buildings to the Irish, and others to the Picts and Danes. A learned antiquary, General Vallancey, supposes them to have been erected by the Old Irish or Aire Coti ; the primitive inhabitants of Britain, who after the religion of

the Brahims worshiped fire. These towers differ in their respective heights and dimensions, as well as in the number of their floors, and in the height of the door from the ground. They vary also in their distances from the church, but mostly bear a north-western position. They were divided into different stories, of which are evident marks in the projecting stone work, left for the support of the floor. Each of these floors had one window to light it, and the upper room had invariably four. If we are allowed to hazard a conjecture about these singular buildings, we should suppose them to have been erected about the ninth century and nearly at the same time with the stoned roof chapels, at which period Ireland abounded with holy men, and was much resorted to as a seminary for learning and religion.

The castle of Ley, near Portarlington, one of the oldest structures made by the English in this kingdom, was erected on a lofty hill. Its length externally is sixty feet, its breadth forty-six. The walls are eight feet thick; in some places sixteen. It was three stories high; the arches are all circular, except one pointed, leading from the causeway into the Bawn, probably a later construction. On the north ran the river Barrow, the other sides were secured by a ditch twenty-five feet broad, which could occasionally be filled with water from the river. Within the ditch was a wall, the foundations of which only remain. The approach to this fortress was by a causeway one hundred feet in length; the outer ballium from north to south, including the bawn, three hundred and fifty feet in diameter; from east to west one hundred and thirty feet. The bawn was a common appendage to castles. Stanishurst describes it as connected with castles, and being a large area, surrounded with great ditches and ramparts; within these, cattle were protected from an enemy or thieves.

It was not before 1584 that the Irish became reconciled to the fire and explosion of guns.

The Earl of Essex in 1599, tells Queen Elizabeth, that the Irish were unable to force any walled town or castle, or house of strength; but they used a military engine called a Sow, which was used at the siege of

Sligo, anno domini 1680, and is thus described: "It was made hollow to contain men, and was composed of very strong whole timbers bound with iron hoops, and covered with two rows of hides, and as many sheep skins, which rendered it proof against musket balls or steel arrows. The back part was left open for the men to get in and out at pleasure, and in front were doors to be opened, when the town was forced under the wall, which was done with little labour, the engine being fixed on an iron axletree." "The Irish (says Stafford,) besieged Liskaghan Castle in 1600, and placed a Sow to the walls thereof, to sap the same; but the defendants did so well acquit themselves in a sally, that they tore the Sow in pieces, and made her cast her pigs, and slew twenty-seven of them dead on the place."

DUNLUCE CASTLE.

(From the Same.)

"Then too Dunluce, proud throne of feudal state,
Hast bowed beneath the withering arm of fate;
For time has been, when girt with martial powers
High waved thy banners o'er thy sea-girt towers."

THE Castle of Dunluce is the most striking ruin on the coast of Antrim, perhaps in Ireland. It is situated on a rock nearly insulated, and perforated by a cavern re-echoing to the noise of the waves. Its dark basaltic walls, marked with the yellow tints of time, in some places form a perpendicular line with the mural rock on which it is built, and in others, seem to project or stand without a foundation, by reason of the rock's decay. Its commanding situation and its numerous gables and turrets, resembling the ruins of a village destroyed by fire, excite a lofty idea of its former magnificence, and a feeling of regret for its lost splendour. It is joined to the main land beneath, by an isthmus of rock, and above by a narrow arch like a wall; to which it appears there was another wall of similar structure running parallel; and that when the two walls were connected by boards, a passage was formed for the accommodation of a garrison.

The original lord of this Castle and its territories was an Irish Chief called Mc Quillan, of whom little is known, except that like most of his countrymen he was

hospitable, brave, and improvident : unwarily allowing the Scots to grow in strength, until they contrived to beat him out of all his possessions.”

It is said that this Castle was probably founded in or about 1182, by De Courcy, ancestor of the late Rev. Richard De Courcy, Vicar of St. Alkmonds, Shrewsbury.

PEEL CASTLE.

ISLE OF MAN.

(Robertson's Tour through the Isle of Man.)

AT the north boundary of Peel-Bay, is a range of several very grotesque and romantic caverns ; supposed by the superstitious natives, to be the subterraneous palaces of sullen and malignant spirits. The south extremity of the Bay is formed by Peel-Isle, an extensive and lofty rock encircled by the sea ; the summit of which is crowned with the venerable and very picturesque ruins of the castle of Peel, and the cathedral of Mona, dedicated to St. Germain, the first Bishop of the Isle.* This romantic and important spot is still fenced round with a wall, having towers and battlements ; and before the modern improvements in the art of war, certainly repelled every invader.

From these relics we may however conjecture, that before the erection of Castle-Rushen, Peel-Castle was the residence of the Princes and Peers of Mona : but alas ! its ancient grandeur has long since perished. The once formidable strength of its battlements and towers is now yielding to the injuries of Time. Its massy columns are levelled with the dust ; and its ornaments lie scattered around, among noisome weeds ; while the mouldering walls are, in many places, only supported by the clasping ivy. Yet such is the general fate of humanity. Time has defaced the grandeur of this Gothic edifice ; and sooner, or later, the same Power will triumph over human genius, and destroy every monument of the pride of man. Virtue alone will survive the wreck of worlds : for Virtue, though human, is immortal.

* He lived in the Fifth Century.

PART IV.—CHAP. II.

EUROPEAN CURIOSITIES.

*Mountains, Volcanoes, Caverns, Grottoes,
Rivers, Lakes, Animals, Vegetables, &c.*

Hark ! through the dale beneath the waters roll,
With ruffling noise, o'er rocks that would control
Their foeting current, yielding to the ear
The voice of pleasing murmur.
The russet foliage of the various trees
Hangs doubtful, trembling to the swelling breeze,
Whilst all around solemnity commands,
And spreads an awful pleasure o'er the heart.

JENNINGS.

And when from towering cliffs we view,
With wondering eye and ravished breast,
The Mountain capp'd with purple hue
Of sun-declining in the west ;
Astonish'd, charm'd, and rapt the mind,
Springs from the Earth and soars the skies ;
Where pure---exalted---and refin'd,
To Heaven's high throne it glorying flies.

BUCKE.

THE contemplation of the Wonders of Nature afford a species of delight, surpassing in sublimity and extent ten thousand fold, all the enjoyments of avarice or ambition. A love of the beauties of nature should always be cherished. To contemplate the Creator in his wonderful works, purifies and harmonises the soul, and prepares it for the reception of pious and benevolent principles. It contributes to bodily health as well as to intellectual improvement. It leads the heart by an easy transition from this World of Wonders, to that

still more wonderful and glorious World beyond the bounds of time. The Lover of Nature is never at a loss for a subject to gratify his curiosity, or to subline his devotions ; in the heat and radiance of a summer's day, or gloom of a winter's night ; in the crowded city and howling wilderness ; in the barren waste or cultivated field ; in the daisy covered lawn, or the craggy mountain ; in the majesty of the oak and the modesty of the cowslip ; he finds a motive for adoration—something to arouse his imagination, or to employ his understanding.

MOUNT BLANC.

SWITZERLAND.

THIS eminent Mountain, the loftiest in Europe, is more than four times the height of Snowdon, in Wales, and nearly equal to twelve times the altitude of the Wrekin Hill—(Vide scale of Mountains, Museum Asianum, page 127.)

Various attempts had been made to ascend its summit, but all without success, until the 7th of August, 1786, when two men, one of them a Swede, attained this point. Since then, the task, though frequently attempted, has been accomplished only by M. de Saussure and three or four other parties, composed partly of English and partly of Swiss.

The following interesting description of the valley of Chamounix and Mont Blanc, is from a Tour in Switzerland, by a young gentleman of Liverpool and first published in the Kaleidoscope of 1821.

— “ Romantic scene !

How solemn ! O'er my head what masses huge,
What antique tower-like piles, tremendous hang !
How stately from his rocky throne above,
That giant peak, monarchic, looks abroad
Far o'er the prostrate vale, and scornful seems
To brave the rocking whirlwind's utmost rage,
And dare the wrenching tempest to the fight !
Here down the ridgy steep an icy stream
Impetuous foams with deep sonorous roar,
While, gilt by Phœbus' horizontal beams,
Plays o'er the flashing tide the sparkling spray.”

"The outline of Mont Blanc is a gradual and pleasing curve, broken by various undulations. Its extreme elevation has often been calculated both by trigonometrical and barometrical measurements, although few appear to agree as to its exact altitude: by M. Deluc's observations, it would seem to be 15,300 French feet; by M. Traillès 15,700; and, by Saussure, 15,662 above the level of the sea. It is described as being divided into three distinct regions; the lower, consisting of a mass of rock, surrounded by, and united to, the adjacent mountains, estimated at about 7000 feet; the middle, called the Dome, at nearly 13,000 feet; and the highest, called the *Besse du Dramedaire*, at upwards of 15,000. Each peak, rock, and distinct elevation of this mountain, has a name; and such of the guides as are accustomed to conduct the traveller over these dangerous regions, assign names to particular stones and bodies of ice they have met with in their enterprising adventures. Owing to the peculiar clearness of the atmosphere and serenity of the air, on the day of our arrival, we had a most favourable opportunity of contemplating the beauty and grandeur of the mountain. On a fine evening it is tinged with a variety of the richest and most beautiful colours, softly blended into one another; whilst the extensive mass of snow resembles a very universe of transparent crystal. Directing the eye obliquely along the base of the mountain, it presents, to the height of four or five thousand feet, a most curious combination of blasted rocks of marble, granite, and calcareous substances, forest trees, abrupt precipices, and patches of cultivated land. Here and there it exhibits broad and deep ravines, on whose sides the snow, falling from the higher parts, and congealing as it falls, has formed a countless variety of whimsical pyramids. Coming nearer to the valley the eye becomes relieved by cheerful and lovely meadows, animated by the industrious peasantry and their smiling farms. Such was the view we enjoyed from the window of our apartment.

The difficulty and danger attending an ascent of Mont Blanc are generally known. Whenever a rumour is abroad at Chamounix of such an attempt being con-

templated by travellers, the peasantry immediately take alarm for those members of their families who are likely to be numbered among the guides. If the adventure is resolved upon, they assemble to witness their departure with great solicitude, and salute them with the same feeling and interest they would bestow on a soldier about to engage a furious and powerful enemy. On attaining the Dome, the danger is great; for at the moment when, perchance, the traveller is about to congratulate himself on the accomplishment of his arduous enterprise, he suddenly discovers the mass of snow, on which he is softly treading, to be in motion. His probable fate is in this case dreadful. The accumulation of snow is so prodigious, that it can hardly sustain its own weight, and sometimes the slightest pressure will detach masses of it, which, sliding down slowly and almost imperceptibly, sweep every thing before them, until either their progress is averted by the accidental projection of a rock, or they are lost in the abyss of some deep and yawning chasm.

CHAMOUNIX

Is situated in the Department of Faucigny, and may probably derive its name from the "chamois," which abound in this part of the Alps. These animals mostly frequent the higher mountains, and are often observed climbing up the most dangerous precipices, in herds of ten to fifteen. The village does not boast of many habitations, although a number of cottages are scattered through the valley. Most of the houses appear to have been only recently erected; probably since the peace, which brought a crowd of visitors to this delightful spot, and consequently an increase of wealth to its inhabitants. Not far from the hotel, are two or three repositories for natural curiosities, where large collections of the stones and minerals found on the adjacent mountains are exhibited for sale. They are systematically arranged in chip boxes of different sizes, from the low price of five francs to five Napoleons. I admired the richness and beauty of some of the pebbles.

We soon began to prepare for the toilsome ascent up Montanvert and the Glaciers. This mountain rises ab-

ruptly to the height of nearly 3000 feet above the level of the valley. Its appearance is cheerful and luxuriant, which the name of Montanvert seems to imply. It is clothed with variegated and beautiful shrubs: the wild rose and rhododendron flourish in great abundance, to the very summit. The pastures in the lower part are good: there the cattle graze with as much safety as in the valley, and are generally attended by the female peasantry, who wear immensely large straw bonnets, which have a very picturesque effect. Our guide, before setting out, furnished each of us with a pole about seven feet long, having a spike at one end.

Having crossed the Arve, over a curiously constructed wooden bridge, we quickly commenced our arduous ascent. We at first entered an irregular thicket, which terminated on a small tract of pasturage. Hence the mountain becomes exceedingly steep and difficult of ascent. Our path lay diagonally along the side of it. We alternately ascended and descended, sometimes proceeding in a zig-zag direction, sometimes climbing up perpendicular projections of broken rocks, and over rugged beds of stone. Our party had advanced scarcely more than half way, when I became so distressingly dizzy that I was seized with an involuntary trembling. Our movements were now become more perilous than ever; and having intimated to our guide the uneasiness of my situation, he very promptly came to my assistance, and placed me behind the trunk of a broken tree, recommending me to fix my eyes stedfastly on the precipice beneath, until I became habituated to the view, a plan, which, by experience, I found to be highly beneficial. The valley of Chamounix had begun partly to disappear, and Mont Breven seemed to be rapidly stretching its naked and rugged ramparts closer to us. During our short stay at this resting place we were surrounded by a group of peasant girls, carrying baskets of wine, fruit and bread, which they offered to us. When we had rested a little, we again resumed our journey; and, after a most laborious march, our steps frequently impeded by large stones, fragments of broken rocks, and trunks of trees, and even entire trees, torn up by the roots, which lay scattered in every direction - me-

morials of the tempest or the destructive avalanche—we entered a thicket of small forest trees, and soon gained the summit of the mountain, having been three hours and fifteen minutes in reaching it. I looked around me and gazed for some time at the magic scene in a reverie of silent amazement. Here the astonished traveller may in a short space of time range over the several climes of Siberia, France, England, and Italy: he may successively traverse mountains of frozen snow, and of luxuriant vegetation; and from the surface of unfathomable rivers of massive ice, he may instantly step into bowers of odoriferous and beautiful shrubs. Frozen cascades, bordered by the Alpine rose, meet him on one side, whilst trickling rills, overhung by clusters of forest trees, salute him on the other. Mont Blanc, in the rear, emblazons the chilly landscape in all the pomp and pageantry of its glory. I was much surprised to find, after attaining an eminence of nearly 3000 feet above the valley, that, instead of being diminished to our view, it had wonderfully increased in height; and on my remarking this circumstance to our guide, he assured me that he had more particularly observed it himself, at the time he ascended Mont Blanc; “and,” added he, “the higher I advanced the more visibly striking was the delusion.” The enormous spiral focks or “*aiguilles*,” as they are called, that rise like beautiful pyramids into the heavens, from the centre of these cold and dreary deserts, are amongst the most striking features of the scene; they form a part of the chain of Mont Blanc, and appear, from this position, even to rival it in height. To the left of the spot where we stood was the celebrated Mer de Glace, on the subject of which so many travellers have deservedly employed their pens. Nature has formed this vast body of ice in the centre of a zone of majestic mountains, about 600 feet below the summit of Montanvert. The first effect of the Mer de Glace from this situation is very imposing; it is a vast sea, or, perhaps, more properly speaking, a broad river of ice, of many miles extent, apparently under the influence of a tremendous hurricane—the waves foaming mountains high; and what contributes materially to assist the imagination, is, that these

furious billows seem all to incline in one direction, as if in reality impelled by the wind. We now proceeded to descend from the summit of Montanvert towards the ice; our movements were, however, extremely slow, great circumspection being requisite to prevent our making a false step, which might have proved fatal to us.

Having observed a lofty projection of ice a short distance from the spot where we were standing, it was immediately agreed to reach it, if possible, as a desirable place of observation. This object, with the good advice of our conductor and a little contrivance, we soon accomplished; and we were indeed amply rewarded for our toil by the extended view our situation afforded us. On one side of us we beheld pyramids of ice glittering in the sun; on the other, a gloomy cavern: here, an antique bridge, just trembling on its brittle arches; there, rocks and huge and broken precipices; opposite, rose the stupendous Mont Breven, presenting to us objects equally wonderful and fearful. The vast bodies of ice and snow that are continually falling from the pinnacles of the higher Alps on the summit of this mountain, accumulate there in prodigious shelves, overhanging the brink of the precipice; till at last, the mass, unable to support its own weight, slides down, and, with a tremendous crash, breaks over it. The noise, resembling reiterated peals of thunder, that attends these avalanches, is inconceivably awful.

The breadth of the Mer de Glace, in the place where we descended, is about three quarters of a mile, extending by various branches several leagues into the interior, where it is described as assuming a still more sublime and romantic appearance. By many, this is admitted to be the most curious and beautiful Glacier that unites with the valley of Chamounix, and is consequently the first recommended to the notice of travellers. Those, however, who are rather curious in researches of this kind, describe the Glacier des Bossons as far more wonderful and terrific than even the Mer de Glace. A certain author, in giving an account of this country, mentions the romantic lake of Kandel Steig, to the north of the Shrekhorn (in the northern

chain of the Alps) whence, he observes, "there is said to have been once a passage to Lauterbrunnen, amidst the most singular glaciers ever beheld; sometimes resembling magical towns of ice, with their domes, obelisks, columns, pilastres, and spires, reflecting to the sun the most brilliant hues of the finest gems."

The day being now far advanced, we began to think of returning to the more cheerful prospects of Chamounix; and having by the assistance of our skilful navigator re-traversed the Mer de Glace, we retraced our steps to the summit of Montanvert, whence diverging a little to the right, we were introduced into a neat white stone building of an octagonal form. Here, the wearied traveller is agreeably surprised to find a comfortable fire, with a tolerable supply of homely provisions. This little pavilion was erected on this most singular spot by a Frenchman, solely for the convenience of the public, and is generally occupied by one or two of the peasantry from the valley, who daily attend during the summer season. An Album is kept here, in which travellers may record their names.

Having recovered from our fatigue, we soon began our descent towards Chamounix, but by a steeper route than that by which we ascended, keeping along the edge of the Mer de Glace.

The following morning was disposed of in rambling through the adjacent villages, and viewing from the most advantageous points the scenery around us. At twelve o'clock we prepared to depart, but not without a feeling of regret; and "many a lingering look we cast behind" on the lovely scenes we were quitting, perhaps for ever! We had scarcely proceeded half way on our return to St. Martin's, when an accident happened which might have proved fatal to us; happily, however, it terminated without any serious consequences. Our driver having fallen asleep, slipped off his mule, when the two animals, immediately taking fright, suddenly darted towards the edge of an alarming precipice, from which we were divided only by a small brook, which saved us from the vast abyss beneath. Our vehicle, from its peculiar construction, luckily secured us from harm, although it hung for some time suspended in a

very precarious situation. The shafts were however shivered to pieces, and the poor postillion precipitated into the water, with both the mules. After a detention of nearly three hours, in getting the *char-a-banc* repaired, we resumed our way to Geneva."

VOLCANOES.

* * * * "The tempest blows His wrath,
The thunder is His voice, and the red flash
His speedy sword of justice. At His touch
The MOUNTAINS FLAME. He shakes the solid earth,
And rocks the nations. Nor in these alone,
In every common instance GOD is seen.

THOMSON.

MOUNT ETNA.

SICILY.

(Edinburgh Gazetteer.)

ETNA has been celebrated from the most remote antiquity for its magnitude, and its volcanic eruptions. Its height is about 11,000 feet, and its circumference extensive. The ascent being very gradual, the sides of the mountain exhibit extensive tracts under different temperatures, and which have accordingly been divided into three regions, called the fertile, the woody, and the barren. The lower region contains a number of small conical hills from 3 to 400 feet in height having in general a small crater at the top. The woody region contains trees of the freshest verdure, and of considerable height. In the higher part of this division, the trees fall off in size, and the cold becomes keener until arriving at the upper or barren zone. Here vegetation entirely disappears, and the surface presents a dreary expanse of snow and ice. After traversing first a gentle, and afterwards a steep ascent, the traveller reaches the summit, consisting of a conical hill, containing a crater above two miles in circumference, which presents the appearance of an inverted cone, and nearly corresponds in depth with the height of the elevation that contains it. The inside is crusted over with salts and sulphur of different colours; it is in general very hot, and the surface so soft and loose

as to render the descent hazardous. M. d'Orville, a French traveller, who after getting himself fastened to ropes, descended to the edge of the opening, perceived in the middle a mass of matter of a conical shape, about 60 feet in height, and from 6 to 800 feet in circumference at the base.

The approach of an eruption is indicated long beforehand by the emission of a pale smoke from the crater; this is followed, after some time, by clouds of black smoke which progressively increase in volume. After the lapse of weeks, perhaps of months, the lava begins to boil over the top of the crater, or to burst from some part of its sides; the interior commotion now ceases, and the lava flows slowly down the side of the mountain. It is pressed forward, by the fresh liquid continually issuing from the mountain, and burns every thing before it, but the inhabitants have at times diverted or absorbed it by digging canals. The whole number of eruptions on record is 31, of which not more than 10 have issued from the highest crater. Those of 1669 and 1755 were particularly destructive; and in the last, in 1809, no less than 12 new openings appeared about half way down the mountain, and continued for several weeks to throw out lava, which covered the adjacent lands to a depth of thirty or forty feet. Etna stands on the east part of Sicily, in the Val de Demona.

MOUNT VESUVIUS.

NAPLES.

(*Various Authorities.*)

MOUNT VESUVIUS rises in a gentle swell from the bay of Naples, to an elevation of nearly 3700 feet. The view from its summit is very beautiful, including Naples, with its bay, its islands, and its promontories, as well as the delightful scenery of the Campagna Felice. To the west the prospect loses itself in the immensity of the sea; to the east it extends far into the interior, until bounded by the Appennines. But the most interesting objects in this view are the

different portions of the mountain itself: the upper part torn by a series of convulsions, and strewn with its own fragments; the part next in the descent, mixed with dried lava, extending in wide black lines over its surface; while the lower part of the mountain, as if danger were far remote, is covered with villages and country seats, with fields of maize, groves of fruit trees, and other luxuriant productions, all displaying the great fertility given by the ashes to the soil. The summit of the mountain is in the form of a cone, and consists of masses of burned earth, ashes, and sand, thrown out in the course of ages by the volcano. It is steep, and difficult of ascent, from the looseness of the materials. The crater is extensive, nearly a mile and a half in circumference, but has not above 350 feet of depth or descent from the ridge. Its sides or interior surface have been progressively formed of ashes and cinders, intermixed with some rocks and dried lava. The lower part of the crater is a level spot, of nearly three quarters of a mile in circumference, composed of a sort of crust of brown burned earth, and containing several orifice-like funnels, not large, but emitting a thin vapour.

Such is, in general, the appearance of the upper part of the mountain, but it is subject to frequent changes. After the eruption of 1794, the cone lost much of its elevation; a portion of it, after being shaken, and even raised, by the convulsion, sinking down into the crater, and almost filling up the cavity. The fire raging in the hollow of the mountain, having thus lost its upward vent, burst through the side, and poured out the lava, which rolled down the declivity all the way to the sea, burning up the cultivated ground, and covering with a fluid which afterwards became solid and hard, the chief part of the town of Torre del Greco. The total number of great eruptions on record is above 30, reckoning from the celebrated one of the year seventy-nine.

The whole of Campania felt the effects of that eruption; many towns were completely destroyed, among which Herculaneum and Pompeii were the most conspicuous. Pompeii had suffered much from an earthquake sixteen years previous to this overwhelming calamity, but it had been rebuilt and adorned with ma-

ny stately edifices. A superb theatre was just finished, and a numerous crowd of spectators was assembled within its spacious walls, when their city was suddenly swallowed up by an earthquake, and every trace of it vanished, for its disappearance was followed by such a deluge of lava, that the exact site of this devoted city remained unknown during sixteen centuries, at the end of which period it was discovered by chance in the year 1739.

The cities of Puteoli and Cannæ were also greatly damaged, partly by the earthquake, and partly by the burning ashes, which it is said extended to Africa, Egypt, and Syria. Besides Pliny the elder, who was suffocated, history has preserved among the names of the celebrated victims, the poet Cæsius Bassus, who with all his household was consumed by the flames; and Agrippa, son of Claudius Felix, the well-known governor of Judea; and Drusilla, daughter to Agrippa the last King of the Jews, found an early grave in the ruins of Herculaneum. The next eruption upon record is that which formed the Monte Nuovo, in the year 1538. The years 1631 and 1707 were marked by these awful visitations; but the last century has been most fatally marked by the violent eruptions of Vesuvius. That of the year 1799 was the most destructive that had taken place since the time of Pliny, and of which the following is a correct statement, copied from a MS. written by an eye-witness of this frightful eruption. "The mountain had been remarkably quiet for seven months previous to the eruption I am about to describe, nor did the usual smoke issue from its crater, but at times it emitted small clouds of smoke that floated in the air like little trees. A thick vapour was also seen to surround the mountain about a quarter of a mile beneath its crater; and the sun and moon had both an unusual reddish cast.

The water of the great fountain at Torre del Greco began to decrease some days before the eruption, so that the wheels of a corn-mill worked by water, moved very slowly, and many of the wells in the town became partially and some quite dry. About eight days before the grand eruption, a man and some boys being in a

vineyard above Torre del Greco, and precisely on the spot where one of the new mouths opened from the current of lava that overwhelmed that unfortunate town, were much alarmed by a puff of smoke, which came out of the earth, accompanied by a slight explosion; subterraneous noises were heard at Resina; yet all these symptoms passed unnoticed, and on Sunday, 13th of June, after a slight earthquake, a fountain of bright fire, attended with a very black smoke and a loud report, was seen gradually to issue, and rise to a great height, from about the middle of Vesuvius; another of the same kind soon afterwards broke out at some little distance lower down. From the terrific noise which accompanied this explosion, it appeared as if a covered channel full of red hot lava had blown up. Fresh fountains succeeded one another rapidly, and all in a direct line, dividing for about a mile and a half down, towards the towns of Resina and Torre del Greco. It is impossible that any description can give an idea of this fiery scene or of the horrid noises which attended this great operation of nature. It was a mixture of the loudest thunder with incessant reports, like those from a numerous heavy artillery, accompanied by a continued hollow murmur, which might be compared to the roaring of the ocean during a violent storm: in addition to this extraordinary combination of noises, a mighty rushing of the winds from every point of the compass with incredible fury, produced that thrilling awe which always accompanies the action of an invisible agent. The frequent falling of the large stones and scorix, which were thrown up to an incredible height from some of the new mouths, and one of which was afterwards measured by the Abbe Fata, and found to be ten feet high, and thirty-five in circumference, contributed undoubtedly to the concussion of the earth and air, which kept all the houses in Naples in a constant tremor for several hours, every door and window striking violently and every bell ringing.

Another tremendous report from Vesuvius, was succeeded by a fountain of liquid fire, which gradually increasing, arose to three times the height of the mountain itself, which is 3,700 feet above the level of the

sea. Occasional clouds of the darkest smoke broke through this vast column of fire, and which, at length, collecting in one vast body, was carried by the wind to the farther side of the mountain, forming a gloomy black ground to the virid glow upon Vesuvius. This liquid lava, after shooting up to all appearance ten thousand feet, was directed towards Ottianna, where it partly fell, red hot and liquid: the top of Vesuvius, the valley between that and Somma, and the summit of the latter, immediately assumed the appearance of a vast sheet of fire, extending two miles and a half in breadth.

To complete this terrific, yet sublime scene, the brush wood on the Somma took fire, the flame of which, being of a different hue from the deep red of the matter thrown from the volcano, and from the silvery blue of the electrical fire, still added to the contrast of this truly impressive scene.

The sky over Naples had been, till this period of the eruption, beautifully serene, the moon bright, and the stars shining with their usual lustre, but now the moon withdrew her pale light by degrees, till, her glory quite eclipsed, she totally disappeared, and the most awful darkness succeeded, save where Vesuvius threw a burning glow.

In Naples, fear and horror were visible on every countenance: a procession of monks, followed by an innumerable concourse of people, whose prayers and lamentations greatly heightened the solemnity of the scene, paraded the streets in every direction. When the black cloud already described, was borne by the wind towards Naples, their feelings rose almost to despair. This enormous black cloud was loaded with electric matter, which, in the form of lightning, darted in every direction; fortunately it returned to Vesuvius, without injuring the city, but the two small towns of Ottianna and Torre del Greco suffered dreadfully from the inflammatory contents; the latter was indeed nearly overwhelmed by the boiling lava, and the inhabitants escaped but with life. An immense promontory, which had been formed by the lava, and had passed over this town, was 1204 English feet in breadth; its height above the sea was twelve feet, and it extended into the

sea 636 feet. The sea for some days, was boiling like a cauldron round the foot of this newly-formed promontory, and even at a hundred yards from it, the water was scalding hot. A fisherman who went near it, observed that the pitch at the bottom of his boat was melting fast, and floating on the surface of the sea, and that his little vessel began to leak, he therefore hastily quitted the spot, and returned to Naples, deeply impressed with the awful calamity which had thus changed the whole face of the country.

In 1783 a volcanic eruption broke out in Iceland: and for two months spouted out volumes of matter to a height of two miles; covering in its fall a tract of square land to the amount of three thousand six hundred miles! In this island, volcanoes have all the dreadful accompaniments of those of Italy: but few of their benefits. In Iceland they produce little fertility; but in Italy, volcanoes, during their periods of repose, seem to rest for the purpose of concentrating their power of producing new empires. The fertility, they impart, atones, in no small degree, for their previous desolation.

CAVERNS AND GROTTOS.

GROTTO OF ANTIPAROS.

GREFCE.

(From Dr. Clarke's Travels.)

HAVING reached the top of the mountain, (says Dr. C.) we came to the mouth of this most prodigious cavern, which may be described as the greatest natural curiosity of its kind in the known world. As to its origin, it may possibly have been a very ancient mine, or a marble quarry, from the oblique direction of the cavity, and parallel inclination of its sides. The rock immediately above it consists of the following substances. The upper surface or summit of the mountain is a stratum of limestone, inclined very considerably from the horizon: beneath is a layer of schistus, containing the sort of marble called *Cipolino*, that is to say, a mixture of schistus and marble: then occurs the cavity which

forms the grotto, parallel to the dipping inclination of the superior strata, and this cavity, was once probably occupied by a bed of marble, succeeding in regular order to the superincumbent schistus; but this is mere hypothesis; and any traveller who enters the grotto will soon perceive, that all the theories he may form have been set at nought by Nature, in the darksome wonders of her subterraneous laboratory. We may therefore come at once to the practical part of the inquiry. The mode of descent is by ropes, which on the different declivities are either held by the natives, or they are joined to a cable which is fastened at the entrance around a stalactite pillar. In this manner, we were conducted, first down one declivity, and then down another, until we entered the spacious chambers of this truly enchanted grotto.

The roof, the floor, the sides of a whole series of magnificent caverns, were entirely invested with a dazzling incrustation as white as snow. Columns, some of which were five and twenty feet in length, pended in fine icicle forms above our heads; fortunately some of them are so far above the reach of the numerous travellers, who, during many ages, have visited this place, that no one has been able to injure or to remove them. Others extended from the roof to the floor, with diameters equal to that of the mast of a first rate ship of the line. The incrustations of the floor, caused by falling drops from the stalactites above, had grown up into dendritic and vegetable forms, which first suggested to Tournefort the strange notion of his having here discovered the vegetation of stones. Vegetation itself has been considered as a species of crystallization; and, as the process of crystallization is so suprisingly manifested by several phenomena in this grottoe, some analogy may perhaps be allowed to exist between the plant and the stone; but it cannot be said that a principle of life existing in the former has been imparted to the latter. The last chamber into which we descended surprised us more by the grandeur of its exhibition than any other; and this seems to have been the same which Tournefort intended to represent by the wretched view of it given in his work. Probably there are many other chambers below

this, yet unexplored, for no attempt has been made to penetrate farther: and, if this be true, the new caverns, when opened, would appear in perfect splendour, unsullied, in any part of them, by the smoke of torches, or by the hands of intruders.

ELDON HOLE.

DERBYSHIRE.

(*Rhodes's Peak Scenery.*)

MANY and marvellous are the stories that have been told of Eldon Hole. Cotton has celebrated it in English verse, and Hobbes in Latin hexameters. Cotton, it appears, endeavoured to ascertain the depth of this fathomless pit; but, according to his own account, he did not succeed: he says,—

“But I myself, with half the Peak surrounded,
Eight hundred four-score and four yards have sounded,
And though of these four-score returned back wet,
The plummet drew, and found no bottom yet;
Though when I went to make a new essay,
I could not get the lead down half the way.”

“There is nothing like a tale of wonder; and this tremendous gulph, which is about twenty yards long, seven wide, and sixty deep, has often excited both terror and amazement. So early as the reign of Elizabeth, the Earl of Leicester is said to have hired a man to go down into Eldon Hole, to observe its form, and ascertain its depth. The account of this experiment says—“He was let down about two hundred ells, and, after he had remained at the length of the rope awhile, he was pulled up again, with great expectation of some discoveries; but when he came up he was senseless, and died within eight days of a phrensy.” This circumstance is alluded to by Cotton in the following lines—

“Once a mercenary fool, ’tis said, exposed
His life for gold, to find what lies inclosed
In this obscure vacuity, and tell
Of stranger sights than Theseus saw in hell;
But the poor wretch paid for his thirst of gain—
For, being craned up with a distempered brain,
A faltering tongue, and a wild staring look,
He lived eight days, and then the world forsook.”

POOLE'S HOLE.

NEAR BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.

POOLE'S HOLE, so called from being the hiding place of a noted robber, of the name of Poole, is a Curiosity of general interest to the Visitors of Buxton—as such it was explored by the Editor of this publication, in the year, 1812.

The entrance is extremely low and narrow; but it gradually opens into a spacious and lofty concavity, like the interior of a Gothic cathedral. In a cavern to the right, called Poole's chamber, is a curious echo; and the sound of a rapid stream, which runs through the great vault, produces a fine effect. The innumerable drops of water, which depend from the roof and sides, are also worthy of admiration; for they not only reflect innumerable rays from the lights carried by the guides, but being of a petrifying quality, they form many fanciful resemblances of men, lions, dogs, and other animals; and of organs, lanterns, and fitches of bacon. The queen of Scots' pillar, said to have taken its name from a visit of the unfortunate Mary, during her abode at Chatsworth, is clear and bright like alabaster, but probably partakes more of the nature of spar, with which the circumjacent country abounds. This pillar is the boundary of most people's curiosity; but there is a steep ascent for nearly a quarter of a mile beyond it, which terminates in a hollow in the roof, called the Needle's Eye, where a candle, if judiciously placed, appears like a star peeping from a cloudy sky.

THE OGO HOLE,

NEAR LLANYMYNECH, SHROPSHIRE.

N Llanymynech Hill, on the western border of Shropshire, is a considerable excavation vulgarly called the Ogo (from the Welsh *Oggaf*, a cave) supposed to have been an ancient Mine of the Romans, as very numerous coins of that people are frequently found there. It is now seldom explored farther than the mouth, which is of considerable extent, dark and dismal, the entrance verhung with the stump and branches of a Wych-elm, and great fragments have in many places fallen from the roof. Superstition, ever given to people darkness with the progeny of imagination, has assigned inhabitants here, such as Knockers, Goblins, and Ghosts; and the surrounding peasantry aver, with inflexible credulity that the aerial harmonies of Fairies are frequently heard in the deep recesses. Some years ago all the passages of this subterraneous labyrinth were carefully explored to their extent by J. F. M. Dovaston, Esq. of West Felton, from whose notes the Editor has been favoured with this information. The entrance for 15 yards is high, but afterwards a person must stoop very low, and sometimes even crawl. It contains many sinuosities, sometimes but a yard, and generally about three yards, wide; having many turnings and passages connected with each other; so that a ball of thread, or chalk is necessary for the greater facility of return.—None of the paths go more than 200 yards from the place of entry. Great quantities of human bones are found in many parts, particularly where the cavern becomes wide and lofty. This renders it probable it has subsequent to the Romans, become either a place of refuge in battle, or a depository for the dead. The passages are cut through the rock, which is of red limestone, whereon frequently appears the marks of chisels, and doubtless it has originally been a ramification of rich veins of ore; for every where appear

—————"the inner vaults of this rude cavern,
Green with the copper tinge, where pendant glisten
Curdled stalactites, like frozen snakes,
Where leathery crust, and vegetable film,
Hoar with their fungous fringe the dripping roof,"

Long passages frequently terminate in small holes about the size to admit a man's arm, as if the metal ran in strings, and had been picked out quite clean, with hammers and long chisels, as far as they could reach. The water that drops in some parts of this cave, is of a petrifying quality, and forms stalactites, resembling very long icicles, which, on being touched, ring with a brilliant sound; and the drops of water hanging on the point of each, catch the light of the candle, and give the surrounding space a glittering illumination extremely beautiful, and in a variety of colours. One finger bone was picked up and brought away with a ring upon it: and about 1750, some miners discovered several human skeletons entire, with culinary vessels, hatchet, and many Roman coins: one had on a bracelet of glass beads, and another a very curious battle axe beneath his arm, and in a cave, at some little distance, were the bones of a man, woman, a child, a dog, and a cat.—Tradition says this labyrinth communicated by subterraneous paths with Carreghofa Castle; and some persons aver they have gone into it so far as to hear the rivers Vyrnwy and Tanat rolling over their heads, and that it leads down to Fairyland. Mr. Dovaston, however, threaded every passage, and marked each with chalk, except one that was so full of deep water, that he could not get his head between the surface and the roof. It is probable this mine was wrought before the year 790, when the Clawdd Offa was made, for that Ditch proceeding from the passage through it, called Porth y Ween, along the brow or summit of these rocks to a place called Bwlch Mawr (the great notch) in that place the Dyke leaves its direction on the verge, opposite Blodwell Hall, and turns from a southward course to eastward, and fences the south end of the hill (in which this copper mine lay) to the Welsh side. And it seems that a battle hath been fought here in disputing for this mine, or that the very large entrenchments (of which there are three) that run parallel with that of Clawdd Offa eastwardly, were made to defend this rich and valuable mine. Persons desirous of gratifying their sight, would do well and wisely to ascend from the mouth of the Ogo, up to these ridges, immediately

over Blodwell Hall, where suddenly finding themselves on the precipitous rocks of Blodwell, a scene of absolute sublimity and beauty opens at once on the astonished and delighted gaze, perhaps unparalleled, certainly unsurpassed, in all Wales. The summits of innumerable mountains are seen at once, rising in every variety of ridge, the distant in softest azure, and the near in the most brilliant verdure, with hanging woods, fertile meadows, and the bright rivers Vyrnwy and Tanat uniting in the valley below, and sweeping their sunny waters to join the Severn, under the abrupt and bold rocks of the magnificent Breidden. Turning towards England, a perfect contrast is presented in the flat, fertile, and expansive plain of Shropshire, richly wooded, and profuse in luxuriant vegetation, terminated by the noble Wrekin, and the faintly feeble outline of the very distant hills of Cheshire and Stafford. The scene all around may be safely averred to be one that the dullest mind cannot view without excitement, nor the finest without rapturous and highly increased elevation.

On this same hill, and a little below this point of Prospect, is a Cromlech, now called the GRANT'S GRAVE. On the N. E. end are four large stones, which formerly supported a fifth flat stone on their points, in form of a Brandart, called in Welsh *Trubad*, but they are now thrown down. Towards the S. W. proceed two rows of flat stones, parallel, six feet asunder, and thirty-six in length. On digging here, a Druid's Celt was found, and several other things, with human bones, the teeth very perfect. Between the parallel stones, a stratum of red earth was cut through, about an inch thick, and being cast upon the bank, some dogs present eat of it freely. It had the appearance of mummy, and smelt fetid.

From the summits above, may be seen the small but graceful Lake of Llunckillys (Sunk-Palace) the fine and venerable tower of Oswestry Church; and in the distance the Column and elegant Spires of Shrewsbury.

KIRKDALE CAVE,

YORKSHIRE.

(From the Rev. W. Buckland's Description.)

THE Den is a natural fissure or cavern in oolitic limestone, extending 300 feet into the body of the solid rock, and varying from two to five feet in height and breadth. Its mouth was closed with rubbish, and overgrown with grass and bushes, and was accidentally intersected by the working of a stone quarry. It is on the slope of a hill, about 100 feet above the level of a small river, which, during great part of the year, is engulfed. The bottom of the cavern is nearly horizontal, and is entirely covered to the depth of about a foot, with a sediment of mud deposited by the deluvian waters. The surface of this mud was in some parts entirely covered with a crust of stalagmite; on the greater part of it there was no stalagmite. At the bottom of this mud, the floor of the cave was covered from one end to the other with teeth and fragments of bone of the following animals—hyæna, elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, horse, ox, two or three species of deer, bear, fox, water rat, and birds.

The animals found in the cave agree in species with those that occur in the diluvian gravel of England, and of great part of the northern hemisphere; four of them, the hyæna, elephant, rhinoceros, and hippopotamus, belong to species that are now extinct, and to genera that live exclusively in warm climates, and which are found associated together only in the southern portions of Africa, near the Cape. It is certain from the evidence afforded by the interior of the den (which is of the same kind with that afforded by the ruins of Herculaneum and Pompeii) that all these animals lived and died in Yorkshire,* in the period immediately preceding

* M. Rosenmuller shows that the Bears not only lived and died, but were also born, in the same caverns in which their bones have been thus accumulated, and the same conclusion follows from the facts observed in the cave in Yorkshire.

the deluge; and a similar conclusion may be drawn with respect to England generally, and to those other extensive regions of the northern hemisphere where the diluvian gravel contains the remains of similar species of animals. The extinct fossil hyæna most nearly resembles that species which now inhabits the Cape, whose teeth are adapted beyond those of any other animal to the purpose of cracking bones, and whose habit is to carry home parts of its prey to devour them in the caves of rocks which it inhabits. This analogy explains the accumulation of bones in the den at Kirkdale. They were carried in for food by the hyænas; the smaller animals, perhaps, entire; the larger ones piecemeal; for by no other means could the bones of such large animals as the elephant and rhinoceros have arrived at the inmost recesses of so small a hole, unless rolled thither by water; in which case, the angles would have been worn off by attrition, but they are not.

COURT CAVE.

NEAR WYMYSS, SCOTLAND.

From Chevalier de Johnstone's Memoirs of the Scottish Rebellion.)

THIS cavern is one of the most remarkable of the antiquities of Scotland, and, according to tradition was, in former times, a heathen temple. It is dug under a hill. Its entrance is about five feet high, and three wide; and the foot of the hill is about thirty paces from the sea shore. It is very high and spacious within, and appears to be of an immense depth. An adventure, which happened in this cavern to King James the Fourth of Scotland, has given celebrity to it. The King who used to amuse himself in wandering about the country, in different disguises, was overtaken by a violent storm, in a dark night, and obliged to take shelter in the cavern. Having advanced some way in it, he discovered a number of men and women ready to begin to roast a sheep, by way of supper. From their appearance he began to suspect that he had not fallen into the best company; but, as it was too

late to retreat, he asked hospitality from them till the tempest was over. They granted it, and invited the king, whom they did not know, to sit down, and take part with them. They were a band of robbers and cut-throats. As soon as they had finished their supper, one of them presented a plate, upon which two daggers were laid in a form of St. Andrew's cross, telling the king, at the same time, that this was the desert, which they always served to strangers; that he must choose one of the daggers, and fight with whom the company should appoint to attack him. The king did not lose his presence of mind, but instantly seized the two daggers, one in each hand, and plunged them into the hearts of the two robbers who were next him; and running full speed to the mouth of the cavern, he escaped from their pursuit through the obscurity of the night. The king ordered the whole of this band of cut-throats to be seized next morning, and they were all hanged."

Okey Hole, near Wells, in Somersetshire, Donald Mill Hole, near Lancaster, Rober Leith's Hole, near Hamborough Head, Barn's Hill, in the Isle of Wight, &c. are Curiosities of the same nature of those already described. And also in Germany and other parts of Europe are Caves of immense magnitude.

ROCKS.

THE ROCKS OF ADERBACH.

(*From Arliss's Pocket Magazine.*)

THE rocks of Aderbach stand in Bohemia, in the midst of the village of Aderbach belonging to the Counts of Colowrath, not far from Trautenau, at the foot of the Risengebirge, and near the frontier of Silesia.

This forest of rocks is perceived at a great distance; and resembles an army of giants, arranged on an immense plain; and perhaps the Risengebirge, or mountains of Giants, which skirt it, received their name from this appearance. The groups are innumerable; each column is detached, though by so small intervals, that a man can hardly pass between. They are generally square, or triangular, and from one to two hundred feet

high. The ground they cover is nearly three miles in circumference, and the labyrinth is impassible without guides.

The substance of these rocks is a sandy vitrifiable stone, very soft and almost friable when wet ; being an imperfect kind of filtering stone. They powerfully attract the moisture of the atmosphere ; and the returning sun causes it to exude : so that the winding paths are mostly filled with small rills of the clearest water, filtered through the rocks.

It is probable that these singular columns were once the internal supporters of a mountain, gradually wasted by tempests and torrents, as they themselves slowly melt into sand, the water sometimes corroding the bases, so that a vast column will stand on a pivot of a cubit foot. In the interior parts of the labyrinth, the force of the torrents has occasioned most picturesque scenes, by trees launched into abysses and other wrecks of nature.

The rocks of Aderbach are the skeleton of a mountain ; and, on proceeding through them, one finds one's self upon the part of a mountain covered with forests ; but the degradation of which has begun : so that the interesting scene of the demolition of a mountain, by the mighty hand of nature, here presents itself to the eye. And, in a thousand years, perhaps the scene may terminate in a sandy bill.

The temperature in this gigantic temple is uniform ; fresh in summer, warm in winter by comparison. At a small distance are fertile fields and meadows.

Many singular forms present themselves, which the imagination of the guides, as usual, fabricates into figures of monks, women, bears, ruins of towns, &c.

In the neighbourhood is a remarkable echo, which repeats, without confusion, seven syllables, for three successive times. But no echo returns the exact tone : the present answers with a gay tone ; while some to the most cheerful call answer with plaintive melancholy.

SLIKENSIDES.

(The Same.)

HAYCLIFF mine, in the Peak, Derbyshire, now no longer worked, was once the grand depository of that extraordinary phenomenon in the mineral world, provincially called Slikensides. The external appearance of this curious species of Galena is well known wherever mineralogy has been studied. At the present time good specimens of it are extremely rare, and can only be met with in cabinets which have been long established. In those mines where it has most prevailed, it exhibits but little variety, either in form or character. An upright pillar of lime-stone rock, intermixed with calcareous spar, contains this exploding ore: the surface is thinly coated over with lead, which resembles a covering of plumbago, and it is extremely smooth, bright and even. These rocky pillars have their polished faces opposed to each other; sometimes they nearly touch, sometimes they are further apart, the intervening space being filled up with smaller portions and fragments of spar and particles of lead ore, which is every where intersected with narrow veins of a whitish colour, and a powdery consistency, that run in oblique directions among the mass.

The effects of this extraordinary mineral are not less singular than terrific. A blow with a hammer, a stroke or a scratch with a miner's pick, are sufficient to rend those rocks asunder with which it is united or embodied. The stroke is immediately succeeded by a crackling noise, which is sometimes accompanied with a sound not unlike the mingled hum of a swarm of bees: shortly afterwards, an explosion follows, so loud and appalling, that even the miners, though a hardy race of men, and little accustomed to fear, turn pale and tremble at the shock. This dangerous combination of matter must consequently be approached with caution. To avoid the use of the common implements of mining, a small hole is carefully bored, into which a little gunpowder is put, and exploded with a match, which gives the workmen time to withdraw to a place of safety, there to wait the result of their operations. Sometimes not less than

five or six successive explosions ensue at intervals of from two to ten or fifteen minutes, and occasionally they are so sublimely awful that the earth has been violently shaken to the surface by the concussion, even when the discharge has taken place at the depth of more than one hundred fathoms.

When the Haycliff mine was open, a person of the name of Higginbottom, who was unused to the working of Slikensides, and not much apprehensive of danger, was repeatedly cautioned not to use his pick in the getting of the ore. Unfortunately for himself he paid little attention to the admonition of his fellow miners.—He struck the fatal stroke, that by an apparently electrical communication set the whole mass instantaneously in motion, shook the surrounding earth to its foundation, and with a noise as tremendous as thunder, scattered the rocky fragments in every direction, through the whole vacuity of Haycliff mines. Thick boards of ash, at the distance of twenty or thirty paces, were perforated by pieces of rock six inches diameter. The poor miner was dreadfully cut and lacerated, yet he escaped with life.

KING ARTHUR'S SEAT.

(From the *Encyclopædia Perthensis*)

ARTHUR'S SEAT, a high hill in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, said to have been so denominated from a tradition that King Arthur surveyed the country from its summit, and had also defeated the Saxons in its neighbourhood. This hill rises by a steep and rugged ascent, till it terminates in a rocky point near 700 feet high from the base, being more than double the height of the cross on the top of St. Paul's, London, which is 340 feet. On the S. it is in many parts a perpendicular rock, composed of basaltic pillars, regularly pantagonal or hexagonal, about three feet in diameter, and from 40 to 50 feet in height. Continuous, upon the W. and partly connected with it at the base, are Salisbury Craggs, of inferior height, but exhibiting an appearance equally singular and grand. They present to the city an awful front of broken rocks

and precipices, forming a sort of natural amphitheatre of solid rock; and backward from the craggy verge above, the hill forms an extensive irregular slope, the surface affording pasture to numerous flocks of sheep. The craggs, beside ores, spars, rock-plants, and here and there it is said some precious stones, afford an inexhaustible supply of granite for paving the streets, &c. In quarrying, a part of the craggs has been worn down into a spacious shelf, having the appearance of a lofty terrace, and stretching a considerable length. From hence is a near and distinct prospect of the city with its environs and the adjacent country. But from the pinnacle called *Arthur's Seat* the view is more noble and extensive. The traveller may here sit and survey at his ease the centre of the kingdom, besides having a complete view of Edinburgh and its castle, on which he looks down as if seated among the clouds. In a word, the German ocean, the whole course of the Forth, the distant Grampians, and a large portion of the most populous and best cultivated part of Scotland, form a landscape sublime, various, and beautiful. The denomination of this hill, derived as above, has been adduced as an argument against those who dispute the existence of the British Arthur. That derivation, however, though probable, is not without uncertainty. For *Arthur's Seat* is said to be derived, or rather corrupted, from *A'rd Seir*, a "place or field of arrows," where people shot at a mark: and this not improperly; for among these cliffs is a dell or recluse valley, where the wind can scarcely reach, now called the *Hunter's Bog*, the bottom of it being a morass. The adjacent craggs are supposed to have taken their name from the Earl of *Salisbury*, who, in the reign of Edward III, accompanied that prince in an expedition against the Scots: though, according to others, the genuine derivation, like that of *Arthur's Seat*, is from a Celtic word also corrupted.

CAVES IN IRELAND.

Ye cliffs and grots, where boding tempests wail,
 Ye terraced capes, ye rocks, ye billows hail;
 Amazing scene, how wild, how wonderful grand,
 In circuits vast the pillar'd shores expand!
 Great fane of God! where Nature sits enshrined,
 Pouring her inspiration o'er the mind.
 Mid pointed obelisks and rocky bowers,
 And tessellated moles, and giant towers,
 She reigns sublime; while round her throne repair
 The best winged spirits of the sea and air;
 And through yon pillars, organ of the blast,
 When sounding Boreas bends the groaning mast,
 Bid the long, deep, majestic anthem rise,
 In mighty concert to the echoing skies."

DROMMOND.

GIANT'S CAUSEWAY, &c.

(From Dr. Stringer's Manuscript.)

AS to the Giant's Causeway itself, the first feelings of some on beholding it are those of disappointment; arising probably from their having formed extravagant ideas of its magnitude. Those who have been accustomed to rocky and mountainous countries, will behold such scenery as the county of Antrim affords under very different impressions from those who are familiar only with pasture grounds and gardens. Its character is to be developed not by a rapid glance, but attentive examination.

The Giant's Causeway consists of three moles, composed of basaltic columns, projecting into the sea from the middle of the semicircular bay of Port Noffer. The largest of these moles, known by the name of the Grand Causeway, extends in a sloping direction from the base of the cliff, about three hundred feet, when it emerges into the ocean. Supposing it once to have had an horizontal position, it has received a slight twist, by which the pillars where it dips into the sea have an inclination to the east, while those at the commencement have a small inclination to the west. On the east side stands the Giant's Loom, a colonnade about thirty six feet high; and in the opposite cliff may be seen a group of columns, known by the name of the Organ, to the pipes of which instrument it has a striking resemblance.

Each of the moles, beheld at a short distance, presents the appearance of a most regular pavement; nor is the admiration excited by this regularity diminished on a closer inspection. It is now seen, that it is not a superficial covering of Mosaic pavement, but a solid structure of pillars united to pillars, close as the cells of an honey-comb. The pillars are formed of a remarkably fine-grained compact basalt, and are separable into distinct joints or articulations, which may vary in length from six to twelve inches, and in breadth from twelve to twenty. The upper and lower extremity of each joint is concave or convex. The concave is indented with a groove near the circumference, and is furnished with a projection from one of its sides, or angles, by which it is locked so closely to the ball of its respective joint, that a separation is not often effected without a fracture of that projection. The prevailing forms are pentagonal, hexagonal, and heptagonal. Some of them on first inspection, might be mistaken for squares, by reason of the shortness of one or two of their sides. Between each of the Causeways are large rounded masses of irregularly prismatic basalt. To the westward of Port Coon, the rock is composed of distinct globular concretions. These concretions may be a foot in diameter, though often not more than two or three inches, formed of concentric pellicles like an onion, and dotted with crystals of cubical iron pyrites.

Besides the Giant's Loom, may be seen the Giant's well, chair, and theatre; the king and parliament too, in full divan. The savage grandeur of Fairhead, or of Port na Spania, so called from the wreck of one of the celebrated Spanish Armada, which was here dashed to pieces. It is entirely surrounded by a monstrous precipice, between three and four hundred feet high, and is accessible only by one narrow approach, which is far the most frightful of all the hazardous paths on this whole coast. These, with Pleaskin and Bengore, contemplated from the water, might probably strike some with more wonder and surprize than the view by land. The Giant's Causeway itself is comparatively small, and may seem insignificant to some, compared to these headlands. It derives its chief importance from the surrounding

scenery, and from the association of its creative cause. But even the scenery of Port Noffer, especially if it is beheld on a serene day, though not of that imposing kind which immediately overwhelms the senses with astonishment, yet it is sedate and majestic, not ostentatious or obtrusive. It must not be judged of hastily, it requires a more minute and a more attentive examination than is generally given it. But many are penetrated with admiration at the first glance, particularly on the view of Pleaskin.

What muse, O Pleaskin, in accordant lays,
To future times shall consecrate thy praise,
Thou noblest temple ever Nature's power
Built for her homage pure? In fancy's hour,
Most beauteous steep, that shade the ocean's tide,
The Muse's wonder, and Ierne's pride.

This is the most striking of all the semicircular precipices on this line of coast. In the sixteen different strata of which it is composed, beauty and sublimity are wonderfully blended and harmonized. Over a dark and rugged base, fringed with incessant foam, it lifts its sides, adorned with various tints of green, greylichens, and vermillion rock, with a rapid acclivity to about half its elevation, and thence becomes perpendicular to the summit. On a stratum of red ochre, at the elevation of two hundred feet, stands a magnificent gallery of basaltic columns, forty-four feet high. A bed of irregular prismatic basalt, fifty-four feet in thickness, succeeds, and forms the basis of a second colonnade of longer and more massy columns than the former. Another thin stratum of basalt, crowned with a light covering of green, and canopied by the cerulean æther, forms the summit, at the altitude of nearly four hundred feet from the sea. This theatre of nature, composed of so many various strata harmoniously arranged, rock upon rock, gallery upon gallery, so magnificent, so solitary, facing the wide Atlantic, as if formed for the temple of "spirits from the vasty deep," impresses the mind with admiration and awe, and shows us how much Nature surpasses Art, in the symmetry of her plans, as much as in the magnitude of her materials. They may then be ready to exclaim, 'Here is the temple and the altar of Nature, devised

by her own ingenuity, and executed with a symmetry and grace, a grandeur and a boldness Nature only could accomplish. Those cliffs faced with magnificent columns; those broken precipices of vermillion rock; you insulated pillars, obelisks, erected before Greece boasted of her architectural skill, or Egypt laid the foundation of her pyramids, proclaim the wisdom and power of the Creator.

MINES.

MINE OF WIELIEZKA.

POLAND.

(Described in a Letter from a Traveller who visited it, vide *Literary Chronicle*, Nov. 17th 1831.)

THE day after our arrival at Cracow, says the writer, we visited the magnificent mine of Wieliezka which may be termed the Palace of Gnomes. The gigantic magnificence of the objects which it presents to the view, surpasses any thing which the most fertile and powerful imagination can conjure up. I was the first who descended into the abyss, by means of a rope, to which I had recourse, in order to avoid the labour of winding round a well-staircase, composed of not less than five hundred steps. On my descent, I found myself at the entrance of a large chapel, hollowed out of the salt, of which substance every thing it contained, columns, altars, and statues, was formed. This chapel has existed for four hundred and seventy-five years. Here I was joined by my fellow-travellers, who had descended by the stair-case, and we proceeded through a vast labyrinth of galleries and passages, eight feet by twelve in breadth, and which are self-supported. We at length reached a series of immense saloons, from three to four hundred feet in height, in the middle of which were wooden staircases, which descended deeper into the abyss, and were lighted by thousands of tapers. When we had descended one of these to the depth of about one thousand feet, we came to a lake of some

hundreds of feet in diameter, which we navigated by the light of tapers and torches, while the music of a military band was heard from a niche at its extremity.

The walls of the grotto were cut into pilasters and illuminated, and at least eight hundred spectators had assembled on the bank where we embarked. The vault, about three hundred feet above us, feebly reflected the ruddy flame of the torches. As we returned, we stopped upon a wooden bridge thrown over a chasm, on looking about which, we perceived at an immense depth down, a hundred miners, employed in excavating the rock. They did not seem larger than infants, and sung in perfect unison, hymns, the sound of which appeared as though it arose from the centre of the earth, while the regular striking of iron instruments upon the salt rock marked the measure exactly. After we had wandered over immense tracts of the obscure regions, alternately ascending and descending thousands of staircases, sometimes constructed of wood, sometimes of bright and transparent salt, we at length stopped in the last saloon, which is cut in the most exact proportion, and ornamented with transparent arms of the House of Austria and Saxony. Here we found two tables, abundantly supplied with all the delicacies of the season. Having refreshed and rested ourselves, we made a second peregrination through the mine. Three immense columns of salt, upwards of thirty feet in height, fell with a loud crush at our feet. These immense blocks blasted with gunpowder, were rent in a shower of unequal masses through the dusky void. The noise of the explosion, like a thunder clap, rolled with a heavy and gradually subsiding sound from gallery to gallery. Farther on we saw stables, in which were above forty horses, condemned to labour beneath the surface of the earth, and which had been deprived of their sight by continued darkness, at the end of a year or two. At length, having satisfied ourselves with the wonders, a part of which I have above described, we returned to the light of heaven, after a sojourn of three hours in the bowels of the earth.

MINES OF IDRIA,

AUSTRIA.

(From Various Authorities.)

THE Quicksilver Mines of Idria have been celebrated in natural history, poetry, and romance. The ban of Idria is a district immediately subject to the Chamber of Inner Austria, and lies westward of Carniola. The town, which is small, is seated in a deep valley, amid high mountains, on the river of the same name, and at the bottom of so steep a descent, that its approach is a task of great difficulty, and sometimes of danger.

The mines were discovered in 1497, before which time that part of the country was inhabited by a few coopers only, and other artificers in wood, with which the territory abounds. One evening, a cooper having placed a new tub under a dropping spring, to try if it would hold water, on returning next morning, found it so heavy that he could scarcely move it. He at first was led by his superstition to suspect that the tub was bewitched; but perceiving at length a shining fluid at the bottom, with the nature of which he was unacquainted, he collected it, and proceeded to an apothecary at Laubach, who, being an artful man, dismissed him with a small recompense, requesting that he would not fail to bring him further supplies.

The subterraneous passages of the great mine are so extensive, that it would require several hours to pass through them. The greatest perpendicular depth, computing from the entrance of the shaft, is 840 feet; but as these passages advance horizontally under a high mountain, the depth would be much greater if the measure were taken from the surface. One mode of descending the shaft is by a bucket; but as the entrance is narrow, the bucket is liable to strike against the sides, or to be stopped by some obstacle, so that it may be readily overset. A second mode of descending is safer, by the means of a great number of ladders, placed obliquely, in a kind of zig-zag: as the ladders, however, are wet and narrow, a person must be very cautious how he steps to prevent his falling. In the course of the descent, there are several resting places, which are ex-

tremely welcome to the wearied traveller. In some of the subterraneous passages the heat is so intense, as to occasion a profuse sweat ; and in several of the shafts the air was formerly so confined, that several miners were suffocated by an igneous vapour, or gaseous exhalation, called the fire-damp. This has been prevented by sinking the main shaft deeper. Near to it is a large wheel, and an hydraulic machine, by which the mine is cleared of water.

To these pernicious and deadly caverns criminals are occasionally banished by the Austrian government ; and it has sometimes happened that this punishment has been allotted to persons of considerable rank and family. An incident of this nature, in the person of Count Alberti, laid the foundation of Mr. Sargent's elegant dramatic poem, entitled "*The Mine*."

We shall conclude this article with the following extract from an epistolary correspondence between an ingenious traveller and his friend.

"After passing through several parts of the Alps, and having visited Germany," says our author, "I thought I could not return home without visiting those dreadful subterraneous caverns, where thousands are condemned to reside, shut out from all hopes of ever seeing the cheerful light of the sun, and obliged to toil out a miserable life under the whips of imperious task-masters. Imagine to yourself a hole in the side of a mountain, about five yards over : down this you are let, in a kind of bucket, more than one hundred fathoms, the prospect growing still more gloomy, yet still widening as you descend. At length, after swinging in terrible suspense for some time in this precarious situation, you reach the bottom, and tread on the ground, which, by its hollow sound under your feet, and the reverberations of the echo, seems thundering at every step you take. In this gloomy and frightful solitude, you are enlightened by the feeble gleam of lamps, here and there dispersed, so as that the wretched inhabitants of these mansions can go from one place to another without a guide ; yet I could scarcely discern, for some time, any thing, not even the person who came to show me these scenes of horror.

B b

KIRKDALE CAVE,

YORKSHIRE.

(From the Rev. W. Buckland's Description.)

THE Den is a natural fissure or cavern in oolitic limestone, extending 300 feet into the body of the solid rock, and varying from two to five feet in height and breadth. Its mouth was closed with rubbish, and overgrown with grass and bushes, and was accidentally intersected by the working of a stone quarry. It is on the slope of a hill, about 100 feet above the level of a small river, which, during great part of the year, is engulphed. The bottom of the cavern is nearly horizontal, and is entirely covered to the depth of about a foot, with a sediment of mud deposited by the deluvian waters. The surface of this mud was in some parts entirely covered with a crust of stalagmite; on the greater part of it there was no stalagmite. At the bottom of this mud, the floor of the cave was covered from one end to the other with teeth and fragments of bone of the following animals—hyæna, elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, horse, ox, two or three species of deer, bear, fox, water rat, and birds.

The animals found in the cave agree in species with those that occur in the diluvian gravel of England, and of great part of the northern hemisphere; four of them, the hyæna, elephant, rhinoceros, and hippopotamus, belong to species that are now extinct, and to genera that live exclusively in warm climates, and which are found associated together only in the southern portions of Africa, near the Cape. It is certain from the evidence afforded by the interior of the den (which is of the same kind with that afforded by the ruins of Herculaneum and Pompeii) that all these animals lived and died in Yorkshire,* in the period immediately preceding

* M. Rosenmuller shows that the Bears not only lived and died, but were also born, in the same caverns in which their bones have been thus accumulated, and the same conclusion follows from the facts observed in the cave in Yorkshire.

the deluge; and a similar conclusion may be drawn with respect to England generally, and to those other extensive regions of the northern hemisphere where the diluvian gravel contains the remains of similar species of animals. The extinct fossil hyæna most nearly resembles that species which now inhabits the Cape, whose teeth are adapted beyond those of any other animal to the purpose of cracking bones, and whose habit is to carry home parts of its prey to devour them in the caves of rocks which it inhabits. This analogy explains the accumulation of bones in the den at Kirkdale. They were carried in for food by the hyænas; the smaller animals, perhaps, entire; the larger ones piecemeal; for by no other means could the bones of such large animals as the elephant and rhinoceros have arrived at the inmost recesses of so small a hole, unless rolled thither by water; in which case, the angles would have been worn off by attrition, but they are not.

COURT CAVE.

NEAR WYMYSS, SCOTLAND.

From Chevalier de Johnstone's Memoirs of the Scottish Rebellion.)

THIS cavern is one of the most remarkable of the antiquities of Scotland, and, according to tradition was, in former times, a heathen temple. It is dug under a hill. Its entrance is about five feet high, and three wide; and the foot of the hill is about thirty paces from the sea shore. It is very high and spacious within, and appears to be of an immense depth. An adventure, which happened in this cavern to King James the Fourth of Scotland, has given celebrity to it. The King who used to amuse himself in wandering about the country, in different disguises, was overtaken by a violent storm, in a dark night, and obliged to take shelter in the cavern. Having advanced some way in it, he discovered a number of men and women ready to begin to roast a sheep, by way of supper. From their appearance he began to suspect that he had not fallen into the best company; but, as it was too

north presents the shallow *Palus Mæotis*, or sea of *Azof*, the utmost maritime limit of Europe in that quarter. This wide expanse of the Mediterranean is beautifully sprinkled with islands, and environed with coasts, abounding with the most sublime and picturesque features of nature : tides are not perceivable, except in the narrowest straits ; but there is a current along the Italian shore, from the west to the east, and towards the African coast, in an opposite direction. In the Adriatic, the current runs north-west along Dalmatia, and returns by the opposite shore of Italy.

The Black Sea is said to derive its name from its black rocks, or dangerous navigation. The sea of *Azof* is replete with mud, whence the ancients called it *valus*, or a marsh : it is united to the *Euxine* by the strait of *Caffa*, the ancient *Cimmerian Bosphorus*.

The second grand inland sea of Europe is the Baltic, which opens from the German Sea, by a gulf pointing north-east, called the *Skager rack*, and afterwards passes south, in what is called the *Cattegat*, to the south-east of which is the sound of *Elsinore*. The Baltic afterwards extends widely to the north-east, and is divided into two extensive branches, called the gulfs of *Bothnia* and *Finland*, both of which are covered with ice during four or five months of the northern winter. It has been asserted by some Swedish writers, that this sea loses about four feet in extent in the course of a century ; and that the water does not contain above one-thirtieth part of salt, whereas other sea-water often holds a tenth : this freshness they ascribe to the quantity of ice ; and they also assert that when the north wind blows, the waters become so fresh, that they may even be employed for domestic uses. There are no tides in the Baltic, and the fish are not numerous.

The third inland sea of Europe is that called the *White Sea*, in the north of *Russia*. It contains a number of small islands ; but the accounts hitherto given of them have been brief and unsatisfactory.

Among the other maritime divisions may be noticed the German Sea, so called because it waters the western shores of ancient Germany, from the *Rhine* to the extremity of *Jutland*. It is, also, styled the *North Sea*,

probably adopted from the Dutch. This may be regarded as a part of the Atlantic Ocean, terminating at the Straits of Dover, whence the British Channel extends to the west. The Bay of Biscay is another inlet of the Atlantic. The Bristol Channel is the estuary, or wide frith, of the Severn.

Between Great Britain and Ireland are St. George's Channel on the South, and the Irish Sea in the centre, leading to the North Channel. That part of the Channel, which passes between Scotland and the extreme of the western isles; has received no denomination, though Mr. Pinkerton thinks it might be called the Hebrudian Channel. To the north of Scotland is the Deucaledonian Sea of the ancients, which, considered as extending throughout the Baltic, is called the Sarmatian.

"the north of Europe," observes the geographer mentioned, "is the Arctic Ocean, the dismal reservoir of myriads of miles of ice, the very skirts of which, in enormous mountains, crowned with brilliant snow of every hue, delight the eye, but appal the feelings of the mariner. Yet this enormous waste is, in the hand of Providence, a fertile field of provisions for man and beast. Here the vast battallions of herrings seek a refuge from numerous foes, and to breed millions in security. About the middle of winter, emerging from their retreat, they spread in two divisions towards the west, which covers the shores of America, as far as the Chesapeake and Carolina; a third more minute squadron passes the strait between Asia and America, and visits the coast of Alaska. The most important division reaches Iceland about the beginning of March, in a close phalanx of increasing depth, and such extent, that the surface is covered to equal the dimensions of Great Britain and Ireland. They are, however, subdivided into numerous columns, of five or six miles in length, and three miles in breadth, followed by numerous sea-fowl, perceivable by the rippling of the water, and by its reflection like that of a rainbow. In April the vanguard of those allotted to the British dominions reaches Shetland, and the grand body arrives

in June ; towards the end of which month, and through that of July, they are in the greatest perfection ; a circumstance well known to the Dutch fishers, who then catch that superior sort which forms one grand source of the wealth of the United Provinces. From Shetland one division proceeds towards the east, as far as Yarmouth, where they appear in October. The other brigade passes to the west, along both shores of Ireland. A few stragglers are found at irregular periods, having proceeded beyond their powers of return ; but it is generally credited, that millions regain the Arctic Ocean and deposit their spawn about the month of October."

The principal rivers of Europe are—in the Russian empire, the Volga, the Don and the Dnieper, which fall into the Euxine, in a direction from north to south, and the Dwina, which discharges itself into the White Sea, in a north-west direction from its source. The majestic Danube next follows. The Elbe has its origin in Bohemia, and, passing by Hamburg, increases the volume of the North Sea: it runs north-west, as does the Rhine, which flows from the Lake of Constance, in Switzerland. The Seine and the Loire, in France, flow from east to west; the Thames from west to east; and while in Spain the Ebro has a similar course to the Mediterranean, the direction of the Tagus and the Douro, which empty themselves, after traversing part of Spain and the whole of Portugal, into the Atlantic Ocean, is westward. Of several of these, as well as other rivers of less celebrity, and various lakes, a more detailed account is annexed.

RIVER VOLGA OR VOLGA.

RUSSIA.

THE majestic Volga, forms, through a long space, the boundary between Asia and Europe, belonging properly to the latter continent, in which it rises, and from which it derives its supplies, till, at Tzaritzin, about two hundred and fifty miles from its mouth, it turns into Asia. This sovereign of European rivers derives its sources from several lakes in the mountains

of Valday, between Petersburg and Moscow ; and bends its chief course to the south-east ; near its junction with the Kama, an important river, fed by many streams from the Uralian chain, it turns towards the south-west, till it arrives at Tzaritzin. Its length is estimated at 2,035 miles.

RIVER DANUBE.

CONTINENTAL EUROPE.

(From the Edinburgh Gazetteer.)

THE Danube, in length and in volume of water, is the greatest river in Europe, rises in the grand duchy of Baden, at Donau Eschingen, from three springs, one of which is in the court yard of the castle of the prince of Furstenberg. After receiving in Suabia a number of small streams, flowing chiefly from the mountains of the Brigau, it takes a north-east course, becomes navigable at Ulm, and receives copious supplies from the east and north side of the Alps, by the successive junction of the Iller, Lech, Iser, and Inn. The influx of water into the Danube from the north in this part of Germany, is comparatively small. After passing Vienna, it forms a number of islands, one of which, Lohau, is memorable as having served for the passage of the French army in 1809 to the sanguinary conflict of Aspern, and soon after to the decisive victory of Wagram. Near Presburg the Danube receives the large river Morava from the north, and dividing into two great branches, continues an eastward progress to Comorn, near which they join. Its course, at one time eastward, at another southward, is now held through countries less celebrated in history ; but the influx of water continues great both from north and south, the Danube being the common receptacle of the rivers issuing from the mountains of Hungary on the one side, and of Turkey in Europe on the other. From Belgrade to Orsawa it forms the boundary between the Turkish and Austrian Dominions, and after running long in an easterly direction, turns to the northward, receives the tributary waters of Moldavia and Bessara-

bia, and discharges itself finally into the Black Sea by five mouths, in 40. of E. long. and between 44. 30. and 45. 30. of N. lat. The length of its course is about 1800 miles; its breadth is very various, but for a great way above its mouth, not less than from two to three miles; its depth also differs much in different places. Though much larger than the Rhine, it is seldom to be compared to that river in sublimity of scenery, its shores being often low, and its channel filled with shoals and small islands; its waters, moreover, are often discoloured with mud. It abounds in many kinds of fish, and is particularly noted for large sturgeons, which ascend it from the Black Sea for nearly 1200 miles to deposit their spawn. The lower half of the river was known to the ancients by the name of Ister.

RIVER RHINE.

(*The Same.*)

THE Rhine, the greatest river in Europe, after the Danube and the Wolga, has its source in the central and highest part of Switzerland, on the north-east side of Mount St. Gothard, and is joined, almost at the outset of its course, by a surprising number of rivulets. Flowing to the north-east, it receives two rivers, called by the Germans, from their situation, the Middle and Hither Rhine. The united waters now become navigable, and hold a northern course to the Lake of Constance. Issuing from the Lake with a copious current, the Rhine flows to the west, and continues to flow to the west, until it reaches Bale, when it takes a northern direction, and receives several rivers, of which the chief are the Neckar and Maine on the side of Germany, and the Mosselle on that of France. Continuing its course to the north, it enters the kingdom of the Netherlands, and turning to the west, divides into two great branches, of which the southern takes the name of Waal, receives the Maese, becomes like an arm of the sea, and flows into the German ocean by Dort, Rotterdam, and Williamstadt. The northern, or less considerable branch, is farther divided, first above, and

afterwards below Arnheim; and the name of Rhine is finally retained by a small slow flowing water, which passes Utrecht and Leyden in its way to the sea, or rather to the sands near Catwyk. From this source to Mentz, this great river is called the Upper Rhine, and from Mentz to Holland, the Lower Rhine.

The course of the Rhine, about 700 miles, is not in proportion to the greatness of its volume. Its waters, unlike those of the Danube, are limpid, and of a beautiful green: its stream, rapid in the early part of its course, becomes afterwards deep and tranquil. During its course in Switzerland, the scenery of the Rhine is often bold and romantic; and below Schaffhausen it forms a cascade, which, though not the highest, is in mass of waters the largest in the civilized part of Europe. From Bale to Strasburg, and even to Germersheim, a number of islands succeed each other in the river; but it is not until reaching Mentz that the banks of the Rhine assume their most beautiful aspect. From that city to Cologne, it flows through one of the finest parts of Germany: castles, towns, and villages, beautifully situated on each side of the river, embellish, and vary the prospect. Hills, covered with vineyards to their summits, rise from the banks; while towers and forts, the remains of the feudal ages, frequently overhang the water. Below Cologne, the river loses much of its grandeur, its banks becoming flat and sandy, with little variety of prospect.

As a medium of water communication, the Rhine is of infinite importance to the countries through which it flows, being navigable, with few interruptions, from Coire in the Grisons, to the German ocean. It receives likewise a number of navigable rivers, which as well as canals cut to join it, open a passage into the different countries to the right and left. It is by the Rhine that the timber of Suabia is conveyed to the Netherlands, and colonial produce transported from the coast to the interior of Germany and Switzerland.

A description of the Rafts or Floating Islands constructed on the Rhine, will we trust be found interesting to our readers.

The rafts or timber floats, on the Rhine, consist of

the fellings of almost every German forest, which by streams or short land carriage, can be brought to the Rhine. Having passed the rocks of Bingen, and the rapids of St. Goar, in small detachments, the several rafts are compacted at some town not higher than Andernach, into one immense body, of which an idea may be formed from the following dimensions.

The length is from 700 to 1000 feet; the breadth from 50 to 90; the depth, when manned by the whole crew, is usually seven feet above the surface of the water. The trees in the principle rafts are not less than 70 feet long, of which ten compose a raft.

On this sort of floating island, five hundred labourers of different classes are employed, maintained, and lodged, during their whole voyage; and a little street of deal huts is built upon it for their reception. The captain's apartment and kitchen are distinguished from the others by being better built.

The consumption of provisions on board such a float is estimated for each voyage at fifteen or twenty thousand pounds of fresh meat, forty or fifty thousand pounds of bread, ten or fifteen thousand pounds of cheese, with proportioned quantities of butter, dried meat, and beer.

About twenty tolls are paid in the course of the voyage, the amount of which varies with the size of the float and the estimation of its value, in which latter respect the proprietors are so much subject to the caprice of custom-house officers, that the first signal of their intention to depart is to collect all these gentlemen from the neighbourhood, and give them a grand dinner on board. After this, the float is sounded and measured, and their demands upon the owners settled.

On the morning of departure, every labourer takes his post, the rowers on their benches, the guides of the leading rafts on theirs, and each boat's crew in its own vessel. The eldest of the valet-masters then makes the tour of the whole float, examines the labourers, passes them in review, and dismisses those who are unfit for the business. He afterwards addresses them in a short speech; recommends regularity and alertness, and repeats the terms of the engagement, that each

shall have five crowns and a half, besides provisions for the ordinary voyage; but that in case of a delay by accident, they shall work three days gratis; but that after this, each shall be paid about four-pence per day.

Afterwards the labourers have a repast, and then each being at his post, the pilot, who stands on high near the rudder, takes off his hat, and calls out, "*Let us pray.*" In an instant there is the happy spectacle of all these numbers on their knees, imploring a blessing on their undertaking.

The anchors, which were fastened on the shore, are now brought on board, the pilot gives the signal, and the rowers put the whole float in motion, while the crews of the several boats ply round it to facilitate the departure. Dort, in Holland is the destination of all these floats, the sale of one of which occupies several months, and frequently produces £30,000 or more. Steam navigation has been introduced on the Rhine with great success. The course is 810 miles.

RIVER THAMES.

(*The Same.*)

THE source of this celebrated river has given rise to some dispute, its origin having been ascribed to different springs on the borders of Gloucestershire and Wiltshire, which from their union previous to their reaching Oxfordshire. Cricklade in Wiltshire is the central town of this district, and some will have the source of the Thames to be a clear fountain in its vicinity, while others again take the rivulets which advance from Swindon and Highworth in Wiltshire (one of which is called the Rey); and many argue for the Churn of Gloucestershire, which rises in the hilly track of the Cotteswold, encircling the vale of Cheltenham, and flows to the south-east, by Cirencester, and through the extensive woods of lord Bathurst, to Cricklade. The dispute is not of consequence, as none of these fountains in their origin differ materially from a common rivulet. These inconsiderable streams unite near Lechlade, where the river becomes navigable for barges. About a mile be-

low its source the river may properly be said to form a constant current; which, though not more than nine feet wide in the summer, yet, in the winter, becomes such a torrent, as to over-flow the meadows for many miles round. But, in the summer, the Thames-head is so dry, as to appear nothing but a large dell, interspersed with stones and weeds. From Somerford the stream winds to Cricklade, where it unites with many other rivulets. Approaching Kemsford, it again enters its native county, dividing it from Berks, at Ingleham. It widens considerably in its way to Lechlade; and being there joined by the Lech and Coln, at the distance of 138 miles from London, it becomes navigable for vessels of 90 tons. After this junction the stream bears the classic name of the Isis. At Ensham, in its course north-east to Oxford, is the first bridge of stone, a handsome one of three arches. After receiving the Windrush and the Evenlode, the river passes by the ruins of Godstow nunnery, and reaches Oxford, turning round the city towards the north-east. It is here joined by the Charwell, which, flowing from the north by Banbury, and passing on the eastern side of Oxford, through the magnificent bridge of Magdalen, almost along with the Isis, insulates the city and university of Oxford. After its junction with the Charwell, it proceeds to Abingdon, thence to Dorchester, where it receives the Thames. Continuing its course south-east by Wallingford to Reading, and forming a boundary to the counties of Berks, Bucks, Surrey, Middlesex, Essex, and Kent. On the north bank of the river are Westminster and London; and, on the opposite side, Southwark; forming together one continued city, extending to Limehouse and Deptford; and hence the river proceeds to Greenwich, Gravesend, and Leigh, into the ocean.

The canal navigation of the Thames, as well as the docks and other great works connected with it, are very complicated and extensive. Of them we cannot within the limits to which we are confined, give a full account. This great river has its course west for about 72 miles, between the counties of Kent and Essex, and Surrey and Middlesex. The first 20 miles is by an exceeding wide estuary; the next 21 miles is still

an estuary of considerable width; the remaining 31 miles is crooked, and gradually diminishing. The tide flows very powerfully through its whole length. Large ships of war come up to Deptford; and merchants ships of 700 or 800 tons burden frequently lie at the quays close to London Bridge. The port of London, or part wherein the ships lie, generally called the pool, extends almost four miles, nearly to Deptford, in which space more than 1600 vessels have been seen moored at one time. A canal, nearly $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile in length, 142 feet wide at the top, and twenty-four feet deep, has been cut across the Isle of Dogs, for shortening the passage of vessels to and from the pool, and to avoid the long circuit by Greenwich and Deptford. There is a canal near Lechlade, which runs nearly parallel to the old river, and contiguous to St. John's bridge; and there is another a mile from Abingdon, which has rendered the old stream towards Culham bridge useless. But a much more important undertaking has been accomplished, namely, the junction of this river with the Severn. The tide flows up the Thames as high as Richmond, which, following the winding of the river, is 70 miles from the ocean; a greater distance than the tide is carried by any other river in Europe. The water is esteemed extremely wholesome, and fit for use in very long voyages, in which it will work itself perfectly fine.

RIVER SEVERN.

(The Editor (chiefly.)

Virgin, daughter of Loocrine*
 Sprung of old Anchises' line,
 May thy brimmed waves for this
 Their full tribute never miss
 From a thousand petty rills,
 That tremble down the snowy hills :
 Summer drouth, or singed air
 Never scorch thy tresses fair,
 Nor wet October's torrent flood ;
 Thy molten crystal fill with mud ;
 May thy billows roll ashore
 The beryl, and the golden ore ;
 May thy lofty head be crown'd
 With many a tow'r and terras round,
 And here and there thy banks upon
 With groves of myrrh, and cinnamon.

MILTON'S COMUS.

THE Severn is a large and important river, second only to the Thames, and also the principal river of Wales. It rises in Plinlimmon Hill, on the borders of Montgomery and Cardigan shires, not far from the coast of Cardigan bay, and after a very circuitous course, passing through the counties of Montgomery,

* The legend of the beautiful virgin Sabrina is well known : she is reported to have been the daughter of Loocrine, King of Britain, by Estrildis, one of the three virgins, or matchless beauties, whom he made captive after defeating Humbea, King of the Huns, to whom they all belonged. Loocrine, (or Lloegrin) was so enamoured of the charms of his young captive, Estrildis, as to divorce his queen Gwendolen in her favour. Gwendolen, however, on the decease of Loocrine, assumed the government of Britain ; and with unrelenting cruelty pursued the unhappy Estrildis, and Sabrina her daughter, both of whom she caused to be drowned in the river Severn ; which, with a slight alteration, assumed the name of the innocent victim. Milton has immortalized her, as the goddess of chastity ; and, in his beautiful masque of Comus, has given her story at full length : to which the reader is referred.

Shropshire, Worcester, and Gloucester, loses itself in the Bristol Channel. Descending from the mountains, it bears the name of Hafren river, till it arrives at Llanidloes, and flowing towards Newtown, between hills pleasantly fringed with wood, it assumes its proper name of the Severn. From thence its course is almost due north, through the delightful vale of Montgomeryshire. Beyond Welshpool it enters the great plain of Shropshire, and after making a considerable compass, turns abruptly to the south-east. It then almost encircles the town of Shrewsbury, and continuing the same direction, passes Colebrookdale, soon after which it flows southward to Bridgnorth, Bewdley, Worcester, and Gloucester, separating near the latter city, into two channels, which reuniting soon afterwards, constitute a great tide river. Below Gloucester its course is chiefly to the south-west. The character of this river does not much assimilate with its mountainous origin; it soon loses its native rapidity, forming large vales, and generally burying itself within deep banks. At Llanidloes it ceases to be a torrent, and forms a delightful valley, more like the extensive vales of England, than those stripes of cultivation which prevail within the mountains of Wales. Below Colebrookdale the scenery along the banks becomes very picturesque, but it soon relapses into its former sameness of appearance, till it reaches Bewdley. At Stourport it is joined by those numerous canals which bear all the commerce of Birmingham, Kidderminster, and the various trading towns of Warwick, Stafford, and Worcester shires; this being their principal port, and the outlet of their various productions. Crowded with barges, the river now rolls through a pleasant country, and in a broad and tranquil stream towards Worcester. After this it almost disappears between its banks, in the midst of the vast plain of Gloucestershire, until it again emerges, and gradually widens into the great estuary of the Bristol channel. From its source in Plinlimmon Hill to the sea, the Severn runs about 200 miles. It is navigable to Pool Quay, in Montgomeryshire, and by means of its numerous canals this navigation is extended into the very heart of the kingdom, being united with the Thames

on the east, and with the Trent, the Humber, and the Mersey towards the north; thus forming the grand outlet and channel for the commerce of the kingdom on the south-west. The navigation of the river itself, however, is in many parts very imperfect, being interrupted by shallows, and the great irregularities of the water; the inconveniences of which various plans have been proposed to remove. The vessels chiefly used in this navigation are barges, trows, wherries, and boats.

A few years ago an enterprising individual designed to have navigated the Severn from Bristol to Shrewsbury with Steam Packets; meetings were called, and the formation of a Company proposed, but the project was eventually abandoned.

RIVER DEE.

(*The Same.*)

THE Dee rises in the county of Merioneth, and is formed of two rapid streams descending from the heights between Dolgelly and Dinasmouthy. These form the lake Pimble-Meer, which is the largest in Wales; and the Dee issuing from it, passes the bridge of Bala, and reaching Cheshire, flows into the Irish sea about 15 miles below Chester.

Pimble Meer is a noble expanse of water; its length is four miles, its breadth near three fourths of a mile, and its greatest depth forty-six yards, and its boundaries are in general of easy slopes. Great winds from the south-west, even unaccompanied with rain, will make it overflow most of the vallies in the way to Chester. The fish found in it are—perch, pike, trout, eels, and that alpine fish, called gwiniad; the *salmo cavaterus* of Linnæus is here in great plenty. The fishery of this lake was once the property of the monks of Basingwerk abbey; Owen Brogyntyn having granted it to God, St. Mary, and the monks of that house; but the whole of it is now claimed by Sir Watkin Williams Wynn. The Dee has long been celebrated by the English bards for its sanctity, and was reputed to foretel events by changing its channel, and, without the intervention of rain, overflow its banks. From

its attributes, the appellation of Duw, *Divine*, has been bestowed upon it; but its generally accepted name, is Dwrddwy, or, "The Waters of Two Springs," anglicised "the Dee."

LAKES.

LAKE OF GENEVA.

THE Lake of Geneva is a large lake between Switzerland and Savoy, in a valley that separates the Alps from Mount Jura: it forms a kind of crescent forty miles long, and nine broad. The water of this lake is clear, except where the entrance of the Rhone renders it turbid by the quantity of mud which it brings with it in its course: near Geneva it is shallow, but in some parts exceedingly deep. This lake abounds in excellent fish.

THE CUMBERLAND LAKES.

(*Louis Simond's Journal.*)

TO a majority of our readers, we are induced to believe, the following interesting and lively description of the "Cumberland Meeres," will be more acceptable than merely slight notices of the most remarkable Lakes in other parts of Europe.

"*Sept.* 19, 1816.—Windermere. Having scaled the ramparts of mountains between Ulswater and Windermere, we admire again the wild magnificence of the pass, steeper and higher, perhaps, than any we have seen in Scotland. We shall rest here with our friends, (says M. S.) during the remainder of the fine autumnal weather, making only occasional excursions among the lakes and mountains, of which this is the centre.

The country round the head of Windermere is varied with hills and mountains, the highest of which does not exceed 2000 feet; the lowest are clothed with wood,

coppice only, and decorated with fine masses of rocks. The intervening vallies rich and verdant, and watered by lively streams, expanding frequently into small lakes.

The valley of Langdale is one of those we have explored. Its lower end dips into the lake, whence, rising insensibly between two irregular screens of mountains for six or seven miles, it closes at the base of the Langdale Pikes, whose fantastic double summit is distinguished for 20 miles around. A stream of water comes down the hill along a wide and deep fissure of the rock, between the cheeks of which a great block has fallen, and remains suspended, forming a natural bridge of terrific construction. We and our friends, forming a considerable troop, mounted and on foot, were attended by a small cart of the country, carrying provisions, and the sick and wounded of the party on two bags of hay. On our return, the sun set with admirable splendour behind the Langdale Pikes, and made us look back very often. Among many changes of the scene, we remarked this;—a very dark ridge, perfectly in shadow with another beyond it, and between them fiery streams of light, like the mouth of a volcano in flames.

Through ridges burning in her western beam,
Lake after lake interminably gleam.

The lake of Windermere has a large island about the middle of its length, occupied, as may be supposed, by a rich individual, Mr. Curwen, a great agriculturist, and considerable in Parliament, who has built a house on it, and, on a promontory of the mainland, an elevated pavilion, called the Station, which commands a view of the whole lake;—that is to say, of all the water of the lake.

On our way to the island, we passed several pleasure-boats at anchor and under sail, finely formed, light and swift. The Seine never bore any thing the least comparable to the elegance of English pleasure-boats. The water of this lake, as of all lakes, is perfectly transparent, and admits of seeing the smallest object at a considerable depth;—you can follow a pin going down ten or twelve feet. The lead gives thirty or forty fathoms in some places. We asked our boatman, who had been rowing five hours without appearance of weariness, how

many years he had followed his employment? he answered, 70 years. This undoubtedly does great credit to the air of Windermere.

Oct. 6.—We went yesterday to Coniston water with our friends, and their friends, on foot, on horseback, and in a cart, by roads impracticable in any other way; first along the Brathay, a mountain stream; then up the ridge which separates the valley of Langdale and the one filled by Coniston water. From the top of it, we saw this fine piece of water below us, deep set in a frame of black mountains, pressing round its head. The banks, however, we found well inhabited and cultivated; and were shewn the house of the parents of a young lady lately dead (Miss E. Smith), who has since become so justly celebrated, by the proofs she left behind here of an erudition uncommon for her age and sex.

Oct. 10.—Grasmere is the nearest lake to Windermere,—an hour's walk across the hill, but much more by the road. It is a mere pool, surrounded by mountains nearly equal in height, sloping everywhere to the water's edge. The declivities, covered with crumbling fragments, shew neither rock nor soil, and exhibit only litter and poverty. This at least applies to the side I first saw, coming from Windermere, across the hill. Approaching Grasmere by the road, the retrospect was more wooded. Mr. Wordsworth, who lives on Grasmere, was so obliging as to guide us to some of its beauties and wild spots round its north extremity. A small piece of land, of twenty acres, in his neighbourhood, had been sold lately for £1500, a price certainly out of all proportion to its produce.

We were shewn in the valley north-west of Grasmere, a lone cottage, inhabited last winter by a peasant of the name of Green, his wife, and nine children. The father and mother had gone to a cattle fair in Langdale, separated from their vale by a mountain. There was a fall of snow. The evening came on, and they did not return. The youngest child was only a few months old, the eldest a girl about ten years old; she took care to feed the baby with a little milk which happened to be in the house. The next day she procured from a neighbouring farm some more milk. The father and mother

not yet returned, another night passed in the same manner. The following day, the little girl going again for her supply of milk, was questioned,—her situation discovered, and strong suspicions of the accident. The alarm spreading in the valley, fifty people set out to explore the hill, and soon discovered the bodies. It appeared, that, having lost the track, the unfortunate couple had wandered higher up in the mountain; that the husband had fallen from a rock, and from appearances had died by the fall. The woman, warned by the fall, had reached the bottom of the rock by a circuitous way, and groped about for him a great while, the snow being all trodden down. She had lost her shoes, which were found in different places; and, sinking at last under fatigue and cold, died the easy death ordinary in such cases. Some persons thought afterwards they recollected having heard distant screams in the mountain during the storm, but they did not suspect the cause; nor, if they had, would they probably have been in time to afford assistance. The bodies, followed by all the inhabitants of the valley, and by the nine orphans, were buried in the same grave. The latter have since been adopted, or at least taken care of, by the people of the neighbourhood.

Some years before this, a sportsman perished in these mountains, in a manner still more tragical. A dog had been observed coming from time to time to the houses of the valley, and, after obtaining some food, returning to the mountains. He was at last followed, and the body of his master discovered. He had, it seems, dislocated his foot, and, unable to move, had died of hunger and pain, and his faithful dog had ever since watched by his remains.

Oct, 11.—To Keswick, or Derwentwater, 16 miles. The first view on the left, as you approach it from Windermere, is by far the most striking of any we have seen in the course of our excursion; quite a finished composition. High cliffs on either side of the lake, of nearly perpendicular rocks, broken and woody, and varied with bold projections and bays; the nearer shore covered with lofty groves of trees,—the farthest penetrating into a sanctuary of mountains, the wildest, the

softest, the most aerial of any of those romantic woods which shade the heads of all the English lakes. Towards the evening of a fine day, the oblique rays of the sun throw over this jumble of fanciful forms their misty veil of golden and purple vapours, in endless changes. There is just a sufficient extent of water to set off the mountains, and mountains enough to give dignity to the lake; nothing to be wished otherwise than it is. On the right you have huge Skiddaw close at hand, and before you the lake of Bassenthwaite, at two or three miles distance, with a rich plain between.

Pursuing the narrow road (along the eastern margin of the lake,) at the foot of the high cliff, from which enormous blocks roll frequently over into the water, we advanced towards the magnificent termination just described; the softness of distance changing by degrees into asperity and ruggedness. On our way we saw the fall of Lowdore, in a woody recess; its bed, a steep ascent of stones of about 200 feet, was nearly dry, and the stones much too rounded and uniform for beauty. The cheeks of the rock on each side are finely broken, and well clothed with trees. It must be, when full, a very grand object. At the head of the lake we entered a pass, not unlike the Trosachs at Loch Katrine; it leads to the Vale of Borrowdale. About one mile from the entrance you come to a huge fragment of rock, called the Bowder-Stone, 62 feet long, 36 feet high, and about as much broad; this is nearly the dimensions of the celebrated base to the statue of the Czar Peter at St. Petersburg. The Bowder-Stone has probably rolled down from the neighbouring heights, and has stopped in a strange position, standing on an edge. The top is rendered accessible by means of a ladder, and is covered with a considerable layer of mould, accumulated by the common slow process of successive generations of lichen and other plants. This circumstance shews the long standing of the stone in its present situation. It contains about 80,000 cubic feet, weighing 6000 tons.

Leaving the carriage half way up the vale, we walked on to its extremity, where we saw the entrance of the only mine in Great Britain, and they say here, in

the world, of that substance (plumbagine,) with which pencils are made. The mountains here,* which are of slate, form a ridge between Langdale and Borrowdale, whence the waters run every way; and, although not the highest in themselves, must be on the highest level of this alpine region. The farthest part of this vale is not equal in beauty to the nearest, and is not worth while perhaps to penetrate further than the Bowder-Stone; yet the whole country is so beautiful, that no ride can be uninteresting. On our return we had a glorious sun-setting across the lake and its mountainous banks. All was richness and splendour of light above, and dark shades below. Skiddaw in front of us, a huge, insulated, round lump of earth, 3300 feet high, so smooth and even, that it seems as if a coach and four might drive straight to the top and down again, on the other side, without track or guide; the uniform neatness of the surface appearing uninterrupted by either rocks or trees.

We set out early this morning for Crummock Water and Buttermere. At Scale Hill, 12 miles from Keswick, we took a boat and rowed to the end of Crummock Water (three and a half miles by three quarters,) a beautiful scene of *stilly solitude*. The surrounding mountains, particularly towards the head of the lake, are bold and bare. Our boatman told us that there are sometimes, in winter, tremendous whirlwinds upon it; and he pointed out some heights covered with the spray of the water on these occasions, which I am sure would be out of the reach of the spray of the sea in the greatest storms.

Mary of Buttermere is one of the curiosities of the

* To the south extremity of the lake, and the entrance of Borrowdale, Castle Crag is the first object which presents itself—an insulated slate rock about 800 feet high, on the top of which the Romans had a fort, vestiges of which have been lately discovered; we saw some of them at the guide's house (Hutton,) at Keswick, a massy hinge of a door, bits of bridles, swords, spurs, a padlock, and various earthen utensils.

lake region, and excited ours. Her tale of woe is become, perhaps, rather trivial in England, but it may still interest strangers. Some twelve or thirteen years ago, Mary ———, the daughter of a peasant on the banks of one of the lakes, was a rare beauty, just expanding into womanhood, whose fame had begun to spread among the neighbouring rustics, and the polite travellers. One of the latter saw Mary, and fell desperately in love. The honourable offer of a gentleman's hand and fortune, although rather in years, was not to be refused; nor could his condition and circumstances be enquired into very narrowly. The unfortunate Mary became the gentleman's wife; but she had not been a lady many weeks, when her husband was arrested. He was a noted swindler, accused of many crimes; and, having been convicted of forgery, his fate became inevitable. He was hanged. Mary has since married a small innkeeper.* She brought us a bowl of milk, holding a young child on her arm. She is about thirty, tall, and a good figure,—regular features,—rather fair,—bashful,—conscious at least that she is an object of curiosity; we fancied she looked mild, dejected, and interesting:

A hair-brained sentimental trace
Was strongly marked in her face,
A wildly witty, rustic grace
Shone full upon her;
Her eye e'en turn'd on empty space,
Beam'd keen with honour.

I would not at all answer for a similar impression on other travellers, less favourably disposed; and to be candid, I must own that our boatman, a respectable inhabitant, spoke rather disparagingly of fair Mary. He said she had shown more resentment against her worthless partner, than pity at his awful end; and repeated some furious exclamations she had uttered when she found she had been so cruelly duped.

* Recent accounts state that Mary is the esteemed wife of a respectable Clergyman now residing in the neighbourhood of Buttermere.

Buttermere is another miniature of a lake, about a mile every way, embossed on high mountains;—drop in the calyx of a flower.

Oct. 15.—Windermere. We spent a great yesterday in rambling about the banks of the lake, and in a boat, on its clear unruffled surface, which extends about three miles and a half in length, and half that in breadth. There are two or three islands about it, one of which was formerly the residence of the Lords Derwentwater, then proprietors of the whole country. This magnificent estate was forfeited to the king about a century ago; the lake being implicated in the rebellion of that time. "What such a beautiful lake for a foolish political party," seems, after all, a great pity. "*Le jeu n'en va pas la chandelle.*" "Should there ever be a revolution in this other world," said Danton to his friend, on his way to the guillotine, "take my advice, and do nothing to do with it."

Here we had the pleasure of seeing several times the celebrated Mr. Southey, a distinguished favourite of the English muses. Mr. Coleridge, whose name is equally known, although less fruitful, was at home with whom he has some family connection. Among these gentlemen, and, I believe, Mr. Wordsworth, another of the poets of the lakes, had, in the early days of their youthful days, some fifteen years ago, the spirited resolution of traversing the Atlantic in order to breathe the pure air of liberty in the United States. Some accident delayed the execution of this laudable project, and gave them time to cool. At present, these gentlemen seem to think that there is no need of going so far for liberty, and that the reasonable allowance of it at home.

There is here (Keswick,) a museum,* which, as a country museum, is not to be despised. We find in it an instrument, common enough probably, but new to two of us; and those who have felt the ten-

* Mr. J. C. Wright, Mineralogist, has a room for it, and is a subscriber to this work.

vibrations, and heard the omnipotent sound of the Chinese gong, must admire the following description of it :

The Gong, that seems, with its thunder dread,
To stan the living, and waken the dead ;
The ear-strings throb as if they were broke,
And the eye-lids drop at the weight of its stroke.

The painter, we found, had not far to go for his model.

On our return from Keswick to Windermere we passed between Leatheswater, a small lake, and the foot of Helvellyn, 3300 feet, the highest mountain in England, but not in Britain. In going we had taken the other side of the lake, which is seen to more advantage near, and the Helvellyn side at a distance. A heap of stones is observable on the boundaries of Cumberland and Westmoreland, in a wild pass where a battle was fought between two petty kings of those realms. The bare hill on the right does not see the sun the whole day. Issuing from this dreary pass, Grasmere appeared to great advantage. The jagged top of Helm Crag made a fine termination to the ridge on the right. I rode alone on horseback, and remarked that every one of the inhabitants I met addressed some words to me, indicating partly a good-natured disposition, and partly the remoteness and solitary situation of their country. It happened to rain for the first time these many days, and I was generally accosted by " Sharp shower, Sir."

Nov. 12.—We have explored most of the beauties of the surrounding country; and many a sun-setting has received the tribute of our ever-new and unwearied admiration. But no language affords adequate means of description; the richest proves but poor in the attempt; and all the possible combinations of words are few indeed to those of nature, under all its varieties of forms and colours. Such a vision of glory as a fine mountain sun-setting, may be seen a thousand times, but can scarcely be described more than once at all successfully.

I shall mention only one view, that from the top of Lough-rigg, at the foot of which the house of our friends is situated. Half an hour's hard tug up a steep ascent brings you to an extensive plain, of the finest possible turf, fed down by sheep; it is gently varied

the summit of a perpendicular rock that advances into the circus, over which it precipitates itself with violence. It meets at length with a projection, against which first dashing, and filling the air with its spray, it springs forward anew to fresh obstructions, till it reaches the vale. Thence, under the name of Gave de Pau, it flows to adorn the rich meadows of Bearn. The fall of this torrent, from its first precipitation, in a mighty cataract, to the level of the circus, is one thousand four hundred and thirty-one feet.

In the Pyrenees, as among the Alps, the inhabitants are subject to avalanches, or falling masses of snow, which glide along the sides of the mountains from their summits, and fill the valley to a considerable height, for the space of several hundred yards. In the Pyrenees, the breadth of the glaciers, or mountains of perpetual snow, does not exceed two thousand feet; they extend in length nearly fifty miles.

Among these mountains are numerous subterranean cavities; and, on the northern side, an abundance of lakes, the most beautiful of which is the Seculego, in the neighbourhood of the Puerte d'Oo, near the French borders. This lake fills a vast oval basin, surrounded by mountains, except on the side of the valley of Lasto, where it is confined by a natural dam, scarcely of greater elevation than its surface, through a narrow opening, in which it discharges its waters. The area of this lake about three miles; at the back, and opposite to where it discharges itself, the mountain rises to the height of eight hundred feet, and feeds the lake by a cataract which falls perpendicularly from its summit.

CATARACTS IN WALES.

(*Buck's Harmonies.*)

WITH what rapture does every cultivated mind behold that beautiful waterfall, gliding over a slate rock in two graceful falls, at the extremity of a long, winding, and romantic glen, near Aber, in the county of Caernarvon! But if you would see cataracts, on a grander scale, visit the falls of the Hepsey; those

of the Conway; the Cynfael; and the Black Cataract, near the vale of Ffestiniog. Of the two last, few scenes can surpass the beauty of the one, or the bold, the cragged, and gigantic character of the other. By the former of these have we devoted many a captivated hour. Seated on a rock, adjoining an ivy-arched bridge, stretched over a tremendous chasm, we have listened with rapture, not unmingled with a grateful degree of terror, to the roaring of the waters: and, shaded by a fantastic oak, which overshadows the depth, we have derived the highest satisfaction, in comparing the tranquil and innocent delight, in which we were indulging, with the boisterous humours of the table, the cankered anxiety of the statesman, or the dreadful raptures of those men, who have so long insulted Europe, and disgraced her glens, her mountains, and her valleys, with blood, with rapine, and with sacrilege!

But if you would behold one of those waterfalls, which combine sublimity with beauty, visit the admirable instance at Nant Mill, on the borders of the lake Cwellin. Exercise that fascinating art, of which Nature and practice have made you such a master;—make a faithful representation of it; clothe it in all its sublimity, in all its grace of beauty, and let the finest imagination in the world of painting or of poetry tell me, if, in all the fairy visions, that the finest fancy has created, a scene more perfect can be formed, than that? The famed cataract in the vale of Tempé has nothing to compare with it. In surveying this scene, our feelings resemble those of the missionaries, when viewing the waterfalls of Japan; or those of the celebrated Bruce, when he beheld the third cataract of the Nile; “a sight,” says he, “so magnificent, that ages, added to the greatest length of life, could never eradicate from my memory.”*

* In King's Table Land, New South Wales, is a cataract falling over a precipice of more than 1,000 feet, into Prince Regent's Glen. It is named “the Campbell Cataract;” and is said to be one of the grandest sights the world affords.

The Romans were exceedingly partial to waterfalls, as we learn from many of their writers. The seat of Cicero's father had a remarkable one, falling into the Liris; and, sending forth a most agreeable harmony, thither would his son, the accomplished Tully, frequently retire, in order to meditate on subjects of literature and taste.

THE DEVIL'S BRIDGE & GRAND CATARACT.

NORTH WALES.

(From Walker's Account of the Devil's Bridge.)

THIS famous Bridge, so much the object of curiosity and wonder, is called in Welsh, *Pont-ar-Fynach*, or Mynach Bridge, and is but a few yards from the inn, being situate on the road leading from Llanidloes, in Montgomeryshire, to Aberystwyth, in Cardiganshire (to which county it belongs)—eighteen miles from the former, and twelve from the latter; but it is so completely environed with trees, that doubtless many people who are not directed by taste, or intent upon deep research, pass over it without the least suspicion either of the dreadful aperture it embraces, or the ancient structure that carried them over the gulph.

The bridge consists of two arches, one thrown over the other. The foundation of the under one is of great antiquity; and because it bears marks of a hazardous undertaking, the common people claim a right to attribute it to the invention of the Devil, who, they suppose, had some mischief in his head when he built it; but certainly it did not require the skill of so excellent an architect, to throw an arch over a chasm not more than twenty feet wide. The fact is, however, pretty clear, that it must have been built as far back as the year 1087, in the reign of William II. by the Monks of Strata Florida Abbey, the ruins of which are yet visible about ten miles from hence, in the direction of Hafod. Gerald mentions passing over it, when he accompanied Baldwin, Archbishop of Cambray, at the time of the Crusades in the year 1188, [and reign of Richard I. The original arch being suspected to be in a decayed state,

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the present bridge, was built over it in the year 1753, at the expence of the county, was erected upon a centre formed upon the old one. The timber frame was removed as soon as the new bridge was completed. Both arches still remain, though the lower is now useless; but it is providently left, as it may answer the same purpose again, in case any accident should happen to the upper. The width of the old bridge is scarcely twenty feet; but as the crevice increased in extent, so must the arch, and the present may be about thirty feet over.

They span a chasm in a tremendous rock, which, when viewed from the dingle where the stream runs, has an appearance awfully sublime: the rays of the sun being intercepted by the elevated situation of the trees, which grow impending over this impetuous torrent, adds much to the sublimity of it—and it may be truly said, that

Here, retir'd

From little scenes of art, great Nature dwells
In awful solitude!

The cleft in the rock has been greatly enlarged, if not originally caused, by the force of the perpetual cataract, the rapidity of which is increased by its confinement. The depth of the water on the north-east, whence the bridge is seen to the greatest advantage, is in some places upwards of 12 feet, and from the highest arch to the water, is 99 feet. On the south-west side, close to the bridge, it measures 114 feet: this difference may be ascribed to the declivity under it, which is very considerable.

The river, bursting from its restrained course through broken rocks, and interrupted by fragments, becomes a more even and translucent stream for about 40 yards south-west of the bridge, till within a few yards of the fall, where it is confined to narrow limits by the rocks: whence, bursting with terrific roar, it is carried about 6 feet over the craggy ridge, and, descending 18 feet, is received into a bason, along which it flows 24; whence it again rushes with equal impetuosity to a descent of 60 feet. The fall is now interrupted by another receiver, which, like the former, appears to have been worn to

an amazing depth. The agitation of the water, and the mist occasioned by the fall, (often by strangers mistaken for rain,) prevents an approach sufficiently near for sounding it. Along this bason it hastens to another descent of near 20 feet, and, reaching that extent, meets with obstructions of massy rocks and stones of prodigious size: these it encounters with irresistible violence, and forces its way about 22 feet, to the precipice of the greatest cataract. The water, then uniting, passes with an almost inconceivable force over the brink of the rock, and becomes a large sheet; in that state it falls upwards of 110 feet, except being divided near the middle of it by craggy pieces of rock.

The river Rhyddol, for near three miles from this spot, is encircled with hills of vast magnitude, some wholly clothed with trees, except an intervention here and there of frightfully projecting rocks, the bottoms of which are very dangerous and difficult of access; but a situation near the brink of the river once obtained, the spectator is amply repaid with a scene the most solemn and beautiful. To describe the various sounds the different breaks in the cataract produce, can best be done by a simile to a variation of the keys in music; and to depict the scenery with which you are here surrounded—elevated woods, rocks, and the rushing of a river falling more than 280 feet—can be more faithfully done by the pencil of the artist, than by the most descriptive pen.

The following is a Table of the exact height from the top of the bridge to the water underneath, and the different falls from thence, till the Mynach delivers itself into the Rhyddol below :

<i>Falls, &c.</i>	<i>Feet.</i>
From the Bridge to the Water	114
First fall	18
Second ditto	60
Third ditto	20
Grand Cataract	110

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In the preceding table, the natural declivity of the

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different basons through which the water passes from one fall to another, is not included, and must add materially to the admeasurement. The grove through which the Mynach passes, also rises to a very considerable height above the bridge; so that this river, in an extent of little more than half a mile, has a fall of at least 500 feet before it joins the Rhyddol.

Tradition says, that a set of robbers, (two brothers and a sister) called *Plant Mat* or *Plant Fat*, (i. e. Matthew's children) concealed themselves in a cave near the bason of the first fall from the bridge; and that, although they committed various depredations on public and private property, their retreat was not discovered for many years.

All in the freshness of the humid air,
There, in the hollow'd rock, grotesque and wild,
A deep and ample cavern, and overhead
By flowering umbrage shaded,

Is still shewn to the curious, as the sanctuary of these daring marauders; and it seems at least calculated to afford an asylum to those whose pursuits are hostile to the keen research of "day's garish eye."

SPRINGS AND FOUNTAINS.

THE GEYSER, OR BOILING SPRINGS.

ICELAND.

(From Kelly's *Geography*.)

AMONG the curiosities of Iceland, none are more worthy of attention than the hot spouting springs, with which this island abounds. The hot springs of Aix-la-Chapelle, Carlsbad, Bath, Switzerland, and several in Italy, are considered as very remarkable; but, excepting in the last mentioned country, the water nowhere becomes so hot as to boil; nor is it any where known to be thrown so high as the hot spouting springs in Iceland. All those water-works that have been contrived with so much art, and at so enormous an expence, cannot by any means be compared with these. The

I, when immersed in it, perceive any agitation in the body of the water ; notwithstanding the strength of the spring, I found not the least inclination to be buoyant ; the smallest pebble will gravitate to the bottom, as soon as it would in standing water.

This stream commences its first operations upon the wheels of a corn-mill, a few yards from its source ; after performing its duty here, it falls rapidly, and produces very beneficial effects upon the machinery of several grand and extensive cotton-mills ; these have huge reservoirs of water, as agents to act upon various engines of the buildings, without which a mere narrow stream would be incapable of executing the work. Further down, the stream gives motion to several copper, brass and lead mills, the produce of which, are both for home and foreign consumption.

The spring is enshrined in a beautiful specimen of the light, or commonly speaking, modern Gothic architecture, introduced into England at the latter end of the reign of Henry II ; and afterwards revived and encouraged by Henry VII. This building is but small, the outside front has three tall, pointed, open arches, between which, and at each angle, are very light buttresses —above these are three windows, each enclosed in a square frame, having three pointed compartments ; above these again is the entablature, the frieze of which is decorated with the grotesque figures of monkeys, rats, and other animals. The interior is superlatively beautiful ; the well, whence issues this vast body of water, is polygonal, the columns about it rise up, and branching various ways, produce a canopy of several elliptical arches, which converge to a point in the centre ; the legend of St. Winefred, on the spring stone, bears a shield with the arms of England, nearly defaced ; above is the chapel, now a school ; the two sides are also thus arched. The roof still exhibits some remains of crutches, &c. testimonies of the many and effectual cures produced by immersions in the outer bath.

The story of St. Winefred has often been related ; but for the amusement of those who may not have fallen in with it, we give it epitomized.

St. Winefred is said to have been a beautiful virgin of the seventh century ; daughter of Thewith, a potent

PLINANIA FOUNTAIN & ROSINIÈRE SPRING.

SWITZERLAND.

(*The Same.*)

AT Plinania, in the canton of Grisons, is a singular fountain, which bursts from a rock, and falls in natural cascades into the lake of Como. This spring ebbs and flows three times every day, with surprizing regularity, except in stormy weather. From being almost dry, it gradually rises till it forms a considerable stream, and then as gradually subsides, till the period of its swell returns. Pliny's description of its ebb and flow is written upon the wall of an adjoining apartment.

In the vicinity of Rosinière is a curious spring, which rises in the centre of a natural basin, about twelve feet square; the force that acts upon it must certainly be prodigious, for after a heavy shower of rain, it throws up a column of water, as thick as a man's thigh, nearly twelve inches above its surface. Its temperature is invariable, its surface clear as crystal, and its depth unfathomable.

ST. WINEFRED'S WELL.

NORTH WALES.

(*From Pugh's Cambria Depicta.*)

HOLYWELL is a handsome and populous town, having many good houses; the principal street is spacious, and kept in good order: and the people seem busy in their different avocations. In the situation of the town, nature has done more for it than art could ever have devised: it has an adjunct of uncommon usefulness in that surprising phenomenon, St. Winefred's Well; the body of water issuing from it in one minute, is twenty one tons, or eighty-four hogsheads, and in the coldest winters it is never known to freeze; the quantity thrown up in summer is a little less than in winter; and, what is extremely singular, this amazing force occasions not the least bubbling on the surface, nor could

and broken, and has several natural ponds of very clear water. From a particular spot seven lakes are seen. Windermere, Rydal-water, and Grasmere, are three of them. There had been a fall of snow a few days before, and the highest ridge of the Rydal mountains was still covered, while below, on lower and nearer hills, the fine woods of Rydal Park in their rich autumn attire of brown, of yellow, and of red, contrasted with the brightness of the snow behind. The grounds of Rydal House are very beautiful, and have two very fine falls of water;—the one has been celebrated by Gray and by Gilpin; the other, called *Stockgillforce*, vastly superior, and highly magnificent, has been less noticed.

The air is perfectly mild; it hardly freezes in the night, and the robin-redbreast sings merrily on the sunny side of bushes. This bird is privileged in England, as swans are:—they have nothing to fear from gunners.

We are preparing to return to Edinburgh; the few days we spent there last summer having made us wish to divide our winter between that capital and London. Before leaving Windermere, I ought to mention an artist, Mr. Green, who has spent the last ten years among these mountains, employed in the study of their form and physiognomy, and who draws them with singular truth and originality; he says himself he knows the *anatomy* of mountains, and he does undoubtedly.

Our entrance into Scotland was by Gretna Green, notorious for smuggled weddings. The marriage forms are very simple in Scotland; it is enough to acknowledge a woman as your wife before witnesses, and even to live apparently as married, to be so legally and indissolubly. In England, there are banns to be published in church, and other formalities, inconvenient to unauthorised lovers. I do not exactly know why this village has been chosen in preference to others on the frontier of Scotland, except its being the first on the road, and having acquired the good-will of the trade. We enquired of our landlady about the old drunken blacksmith, said to be the high-priest of this fugitive Hymen. She denied, however, indignantly his having ever been

a blacksmith.* We might have been admitted to the sight of this noble personage for a glass of grog. He is neither a clergyman nor a magistrate, but reads the English marriage service to tranquillize the scruples of the lady, and persuade her she is rightfully married, although it is not necessary. The Scotch church does not countenance these clandestine unions, and, I believe, excommunicates the contracting parties. The object of the laws of Scotland is, to prevent concubinage, by rendering it dangerous; not to facilitate improper marriages.

Between Moffat and Crook, the road traverses a pastoral district, not unlike Mosepaul. A few miles north of Moffat, the side of the hill over which we passed is worn away into a frightful chasm, called the *Devil's Beef-Tub*. The view from the top must be very fine, but all was cloud and mist over the plain below, and we were left to fancy what we pleased.

CATARACTS.

THE FALLS OF GAVE DE PAU.

SPAIN.

(From Kelly's *Geography*.)

ONE of the most imposing scenes in nature is the amphitheatre of Marbore, in the valley of Bareges. An immense semicircle, inclosed by a perpendicular wall from twelve to fifteen hundred feet high, is surrounded by vast piles of mountains, covered with perpetual snow, and soaring above each other. These high summits are also crowned by other rocks, resembling towers, which raise their lofty heads still higher into the regions of frost. From the midst of these, a dozen torrents gush into the bottom, deafening the ear with the noise of their fall, and whitening the earth with their foam. One of them, more impetuous than the rest, rolling over a craggy steep, arrives at length at

* He was formerly a tobaconist.—ED.

by the side of the Catwater. Every side of the cave was solid rock; the inside had no incrustation of stalactite, nor was there any external communication through the rock in which it was imbedded, nor any appearance of an opening from above being inclosed by infiltration. When, therefore, and in what manner these bones came into that situation, is among the secret and wonderful operations of nature, which will probably never be revealed to mankind."

Professor Silliman having given a place to the foregoing in his *American Journal of Science*, No. 5, subjoins to it the following extract, translated from Count Bournon's *Mineralogy*, as a fact still more interesting:

"During the years 1786, 7, and 8, men were occupied near Aix in Provence, in France, in quarrying stone for the rebuilding, upon a vast scale, of the Palace of Justice. The stone was a limestone of a deep grey, and of that kind which is tender when it comes out of the quarry, but hardens by exposure to the air. The strata were separated from one another by a bed of sand mixed with clay, more or less calcareous. The first which were wrought presented no appearance of any foreign bodies; but after the workmen had removed the first ten beds, they were astonished, when taking away the eleventh, to find its inferior surface, at the depth of forty or fifty feet, covered with shells. The stone of this bed having been removed, as they were taking away a stratum of argillaceous sand, which separated the eleventh bed from the twelfth, they found stumps of columns and pieces of stone half wrought, which were exactly similar to that of the quarry: they found, moreover some coins, handles of hammers, and other tools, or fragments of tools in wood. But that which principally commanded their attention, was a board about one inch thick and seven or eight feet long: it was broken into many pieces, of which none were missing, and it was possible to join them again one to another, and to restore to the board or plate its original form, which was that of the boards of the same kind used by the masons and quarrymen: it was worn in the same manner, rounded and waving upon the edges. The stones, which were completely or partly wrought, had not at all

changed their nature, but the fragments of the board and the instruments, and the pieces of instruments of wood, had been changed into agates, which were very fine and agreeably coloured. Here then (observes Count Bournon) we have the traces of a work executed by the hand of man, placed at the depth of fifty feet, and covered with eleven beds of compact limestone: every thing tended to prove that this work had been executed upon the spot where the traces existed. The presence of man had then preceded the formation of this stone, and that very considerably, since he was already arrived at such a degree of civilization that the arts were known to him, and that he wrought the stone and formed columns out of it."

A remarkable depository of Fossil Bones, is seen near the village of Concud in Arragon, described in Heron's *Extracts of Natural History*.

The village of Concud is about a league distant from the city of Teruel, in the kingdom of Arragon, situated on a hill of calcareous rock, degenerated into hard earth, and though it now appears very uneven, it seems to have been formerly rock which the rains have destroyed by degrees, in proportion to its greater or less resistance. Going out of the village of Concud, towards the north, you ascend three small hills, and then come to the *Cueva Rubia*, "the Red Cave," so called from a species of red earth, which the waters of a gully have laid open. This hill is about two hundred paces long, thirty broad, and eight in depth. The top of the hill is of a calcareous rock, more or less hard, in strata of two or three feet breadth, full of terrestrial and aquatic shells, which appear to be calcined. In the centre of the same rocks, there are bones of oxen and horses, asses' teeth, and other bones of lesser domestic animals. Many of these bones seem preserved in the same state as those found in the cemeteries; others seem calcined; some are solid; and other sorts are pulverized. The thigh and shin bones of the human race are seen with their cavities full of crystalline matter. The horns of cattle are mixed with these and other bones of different articulations, white, yellow and black, confusedly jumbled together, in some places there being seven or eight

thin bones of men, without the least regularity of order.—These bones are generally found in a bed of rock about three feet thick, decomposed, and almost converted into earth, with strata of superincumbent stone, from fifteen to twenty feet thick, which serve as a cover to the hill. The soil which contains the bones, rests upon a mass of red earth, and rounded limestone conglutinated with sand and much unlike paddingstone. A similar congeries is seen at the bottom of the gully, and the adjacent hills are of plaster stone on the other side of the gully, and near it there is a cave blackened by the fire of sulphur, where there are bones in a bed of hard earth, above sixty feet high, covered with different strata of rock, corresponding exactly with those on the other side; which shows that what might have been carried away by the waters, was exactly the same as the mass that remains. The chain of hills at this place, five leagues from Aibarracin, and eight from the source of the Tagus, produces the thorny nest-burrow, two species of wormwood, two of sandoline, southernwood, French lavender, eringa, sage and thyme, and wherever they dig, bones as well as aquatic and terrestrial shells are found in masses of hard rock, four feet broad and eight long, some firmly fixed and rivetted therein, with as hard and smooth a grain, as to admit of polishing like marble. At a musket shot from the gully, there is a hill of rock, which is crumbling into earth, where an infinite number of bones are found at two feet depth, but no farther. In some places the ossified substance is entirely decayed, nothing remaining but the impression of the bones on the stone, in the same manner that it frequently happens with shells. The finding of these bones in hard rocks, and in such different gradations and conversions into earth, of various sorts and colours, all disposed in regular strata, indicates a decomposition, so that the hills in reality consist of only two beds, one of limestone, divided into different strata, and the other of small rounded stone, consolidated with sand and calcareous earth. In this latter part there are no bones, nor shells, which are only to be found in the first division, the variety of colours being purely accidental.

It is singular to find shells not petrified, or the

impression of them near Teruel; but it is still more surprising to find rocks almost entirely composed of aquatic and terrestrial shells, confusedly huddled together, and mixed with small bones, in a thin bed of blackish earth, beneath other beds of rock, and yet not to meet with such bones, in any other part, either higher or lower, sometimes about fifty feet deep.

They tell you of an entire skeleton having been discovered, but this is much to be doubted, for though many bones are white and well preserved, none are found to correspond or belong to each other, in that whole range of extensive ossification. These bones must have been separated from their respective parts, by some accident difficult to be accounted for at present: according to their actual position one would imagine them to have been conveyed there by some fluid, either water or mud; some seem to have slid horizontally from thirty to sixty feet, which destroys all ideas of an earthquake; others have stuck fast in a bed of mud, about two feet from the surface, which, by degrees, has hardened in the air; others have remained on the surface, and turned into limestone; finally, many fragments of bones and shells, mixed in this mud, have dried up, and become the most considerable part of the rock."

In the villa Ludovici, near Rome, is a skeleton incrustated with stone. At the founding of Quebec, in Canada, a Savage, with his arrows and his quiver was dug up from the lower strata, petrified.

In a mine at Falun, in Sweden, two human bodies were, at different times, found impregnated with vitriol of iron. At Andracum, impregnated with sulphur; and in Norway, on a bed of loadstone, one impregnated with copper. In 1744, a skeleton was also found, mixed with stags horns, in a lead mine. Others, in various places, have been found, exhibiting a mineralized appearance; but whether they existed prior or subsequent to the general deluge, the Editor does not pretend to be able to decide.

In Mitchell's Dictionary of Chemistry and Geology, we meet with the following hints respecting the surface of the earth.

"Three-fifths of the surface of the globe are covered by the sea, the average depth of which has been estimated at from five to ten miles ; but great changes have taken place in the relative positions of the present continents with the ocean, which, in former ages, rolled its waves over the summits of our highest mountains. Of this, demonstrative proofs exist in our own island, and in various parts of the world. The calcareous, or limestone mountains in Derbyshire, and Craven, in Yorkshire, rise up to the height of about two thousand feet above the present level of the sea. They contain, through their whole extent, fossil remains of zoophytes, shell-fish, and marine animals ; but more abundantly in some parts than in others. The mountains of the Pyrenees are covered in the highest part at Mont Perdu with calcareous rocks, containing impressions of marine animals ; and even where the impressions are not visible in the lime-stone it yields a foetid cadaverous odour when dissolved in acids, owing, in all probability, to the animal matter it contains. Mont Perdu rises 10,500 feet above the level of the sea ; it is the highest situation in which any marine remains have been found in Europe. In the Andes they have been observed by Humboldt at the height of 14,000 feet. In England, the calcareous mountains contain no remains of vegetables ; but, in the thick beds of shale and gritstone lying upon them, are found various vegetable impressions, and above these regular beds of coal, with strata containing shells of fresh-water muscles. In the early lime-stone of the upper strata are sometimes found fossil flat-fish, with the impressions of the scales and bones quite distinct ; and lastly, in and under the thick beds of clay-covering chalk, in the southern countries, the bones of the rhinoceros, the elephant, and the mammoth, are not uncommonly discovered. The sagacious naturalist Cuvier, has examined these bones from different parts of the world with much attention, and has observed characteristic variations of structure, which prove that they belong to animals not now existing on our globe ; nor have many of the various zoophytes and shell-fish found in the calcareous rocks, been discovered in our present seas. The fossil remains of

animals not now in existence, entombed and preserved in solid rocks, present us with durable monuments of the great changes which our planet has undergone in former ages. We are led to a period when the waters of the ocean have covered the summits of our highest mountains, and are irresistibly compelled to admit one of two conclusions, either that the sea has retired and sunk down below its former level, or some power operating from beneath has lifted up the islands and continents, with all their hills and mountains, from the watery abyss to their present elevation above its surface."

Another astonishing Phenomenon relative to the earth is exhibited in the existence of living animals in beds or blocks of solid marble and rock stone. It is said that living shell fish are sometimes found in stones near Ancona, in Italy. Fulgoses relates that a living worm was once found in a flint. Toads have also been found in flints. Alexander Tassoni relates that some workmen of Tivoli, having cleft a large mass of stone, found a cray fish in the middle of it, which they boiled and ate. In 1820, an insect resembling a worm was found in a cell, the size of a sparrow's egg, in a fragment of coal dug out of woody field pit, at the depth of twelve fathoms. When touched it moved its conical part to any side, thus shewing it had rotary motion. It had five or six circular horny rings, connected by moveable membranes.

As a mason, at a village near Kirkaldy, in Scotland, was dressing a barley millstone from a large block, after cutting away a part, he found a lizard imbedded in the stone. It was about an inch and a quarter long, of a brownish yellow colour, and had a round head, with bright, sparkling, projecting eyes. It was apparently dead; but after being about five minutes exposed to the air, it showed signs of life, and soon after ran about with much celerity; after half an hour, it was brushed off the stone and killed. There were about 14 feet of earth above the rock, and the block in which the lizard was found was seven or eight feet deep in the rock; so that the whole depth of the animal from the surface was 21 or 22 feet. The stone had no fissure, was quite hard, and one of the best to be got from the quarry of Cullaloe, reckoned perhaps the first in Scotland.

Little more than twenty years ago, a toad was found alive in a solid block of stone, hewn out of the quarry at Grinsbill, a few miles from Shrewsbury. The creature survived its liberation only a few moments.—It has been carefully preserved in spirits by Sir Andrew Corbet, Bart., and is now in the possession of his excellent son, Andrew Vincent Corbet, Esq. of Acton Reynald Hall, the proprietor of the quarry, by whom the Editor has been politely obliged with a sight of this interesting curiosity.

Living reptiles have also been found in trunks of trees. The only probable conjecture respecting these animals, is that that they must have accidentally been insinuated into the trees when young; and in that situation grown with the tree, fed upon its substance, and lived without air.

From every review of nature, we are impressed with the conviction of the limited powers and understanding of mankind. There are difficulties we cannot remove; there are mysteries we cannot fathom. The discovery of the arcana of nature will, no doubt, be a source of employment for the human soul in a future state of Being. In our present stage of existence, we seek, we wonder, and admire. In the next we shall discover, comprehend and adore—how delightful is the idea!—How wretched must be the state of those men who, because they meet with difficulties in their search after causes, reject a First Cause; or rather than enquire into the evidences in favour of a future state, deny its possibility; and who, refusing assent to the doctrines of Holy Writ, plunge into the abyss of infidelity—live without Faith, and die without Hope.

*"Barren to them of good, and sharp with ill,
And hourly blackened with impending storms,
And infamous for wrecks of human hope,
To what are they reduced ————
Scared at the gloomy gulph that yawns beneath!
Such are their triumphs, such their pangs of joy."*

EXTRAORDINARY EUROPEAN ANIMALS, VEGETABLES, &c.

The Heavens, the Air, the Earth and boundless Sea,
Make but one temple of the Deity,

WALLER,

His pencil glows in every flower—
While beasts and birds, with lab'ring throats,
Teach us a God in thousand notes.

WATTS.

THE earth is assigned us for a dwelling (said the pious and eloquent Herve); the skies are stretched over us like a magnificent canopy, dyed in the purest azure, and beautified sometimes with pictures of floating silver, and at other times with coverings of reflected crimson; the grass is spread under us as a spacious carpet, wove with silken threads of green, and damasked with flowers of every hue; the sun, like a golden lamp, is hung out in the ethereal vault, and pours his effulgence all the day to enlighten our paths: when night approaches, the moon takes up the friendly office, and the stars are kindled into twinkling myriads, to cheer the darkness with their milder lustre, nor disturb our repose by too intense a glare; the clouds act the part of a shifting screen, and defend us, by their seasonable interposition, from the scorching beams of summer; may we not also regard them as the great watering pots of the globe, which, wafted on the wings of the wind, disperse their moisture evenly through the universal garden, and fructify by their showers whatever our hand plants; the fields are our exhaustless granary, and the ocean is our vast reservoir; the animals open their strength to dispatch our business, resign their clothing to replenish our wardrobe, and surrender their very lives to provide for our tables; in short, every element is a storehouse of conveniences, every season brings us the choicest productions, and all nature is our caterer; and what is a most endearing recommendation of these favours, they are all as lovely as they are useful; all is clad in beauty's fairest robe, and regulated by proportion's nicest rule. The whole scene exhibits a fund of pleasure to the imagination, at the same time that it more than supplies our wants.

H h

The beauties of creation are far beyond the refinements of art, the pageantry of theatres, the glitterings of assemblies, or the ornaments of palaces. If we properly inspect the stately volume of the creation, every leaf is a wide plain, every line a flowing brook, and every period a lofty mountain. In the works of creation we scarcely know which to admire most, their endless variety or their beautiful simplicity, and, above all, their perfect execution. All human performances, the more they are scanned, the more imperfect they appear—but the works of nature have stood the test of the most minute investigation for near 6000 years, and appear more and more beautiful.

"Who can paint
Like nature? can imagination boast,
Amid his gay creation, lines like these?
And can he mix them with that matchless skill,
And lay them on so delicately fine?"

Dr. Blair observes, what a magnificent spectacle is presented in the works of creation! what a profusion of beauty is poured forth on the face of nature! what a rich supply for the wants of man! and what a vast variety of objects, to employ his understanding and devotion, to please his senses, and cheer and gladden his heart.

Baron Humboldt, in a memoir read to the institute, 19th February, 1821, entitled, "New Observations on the Laws which we observe in the Distribution of Vegetable Forms," states, that we already know nearly 56,000 species of cryptogamous and phanerogamous plants, 44,000 insects, 2,500 fishes, 700 reptiles, 4000 birds, and 500 species of mammiferæ. In Europe alone according to the researches of M. Humboldt and M. Valenciennes, there exist nearly 80 mammiferæ, 400 birds, and 30 reptiles. There are, of consequence, under this temperate boreal zone, 5 times as many species of birds as of mammiferæ; as, in like manner, there are in Europe 5 times as many compositæ as amentaceous and coniferous plants; 5 times as many leguminous as there are of orchideous and euphorbiaceous.

None of the Land Animals of Europe are to be compared with the Elephant and Rhinoceros of Asia, or Lion

of Africa. The following are noticed more on account of their interesting character, than extraordinary, rarity.

THE POLAR BEAR.

(From Heron's Elegant Extracts.)

THESE animals are sometimes brought alive into England. In a state of nature, and, in places little visited by mankind, they are of dreadful ferocity. In Spitzbergen, and the other places annually frequented by the human race, they dread its power, having experienced its superiority, and shun the conflict; yet even in those countries, they prove tremendous enemies, if attacked or provoked.

BARENTZ, in his voyages in search of a north-east passage to China, had fatal proofs of their rage and intrepidity on the island of Nova Zembla; his seamen were frequently attacked and some of them killed. Those whom they seized on they took in their mouths, ran away with the utmost ease, tore to pieces, and devoured at their leisure, even in sight of the surviving comrades. One of these animals was shot preying on the mangled corpse, yet would not quit its hold; but continued staggering away with the body in its mouth, till dispatched. They will attack, and attempt to board, armed vessels far distant from shore; and have been, with great difficulty, repelled. They are frequently seen in Greenland, in lat. 76°, in great droves; where, allured by the scent of the flesh of seals, they will surround the habitations of the natives, and attempt to break in; but are soon driven away by the smell of burnt feathers. If one of them is, by any accident, killed, the survivors will immediately eat it. They grow excessively fat; a hundred pounds of fat have been taken out of a single beast. Their flesh is coarse, but is eaten by the seamen; it is white, and they fancy it tastes like mutton. The skin is an article of commerce; many are imported, and used chiefly as covers to coach-boxes. The Greenlanders feed on the flesh and fat; use the skins to sit on, and

make of it boots, shoes and gloves ; and split the tendons into thread for sewing.

During summer they reside chiefly on islands of ice, and pass frequently from the one to the other. They swim most excellently, and sometimes dive, but continue only a short time under water. They have been seen on islands of ice eighty miles from any land, preying and feeding as they float along. They lodge in dens formed in the vast masses of ice, which are piled in a stupendous manner, leaving great caverns beneath ; here they breed, and bring forth one or two at a time, and sometimes, though but very rarely, three. Great is the affection between parent and young ; they will sooner die than desert one another. They also follow their dams a very long time, and are grown to a very large size, before they quit them.

During winter they retire, and bed themselves deep beneath, forming spacious dens in the snow, supported by pillars of the same, or to the fixed ice beneath some eminence ; where they pass torpid the long and dismal night, appearing only with the return of the sun. At their appearance the Arctic foxes retire to other haunts.

The polar bear became part of the royal menagerie as early as the reign of Henry III. Mr. Walpole has proved how great a patron that despised prince was of the arts. It is not less evident that he extended his protection to natural history. We find he had procured a white bear from Norway, whither it probably was imported from Greenland, the Norwegians having possessed that country for some centuries before that period. There are two writs extant of that monarch, directing the sheriffs of London to furnish sixpence a-day to support our white bear in our Tower of London ; and to provide a muzzle, and iron chain to hold him when out of the water ; and a long and strong rope to hold him when he was fishing in the Thames. Fit provision was made, at the same time, for the king's elephant.

THE HORSE.

(Bingley's Animal Biography.)

THE Horse is a native of several districts of Asia and Africa ; and in the southern parts of Siberia large herds of these animals are occasionally seen. They are extremely swift, active, and vigilant ; and have always a sentinel, who, by a loud neigh, gives notice to the herd of the approach of danger, on which they gallop off with astonishing rapidity.

In Ukraine, where wild Horses are often found, they are rendered no otherwise serviceable to man than as food. The wild Horses on each side of the Don, are the offspring of the Russian Horses that were employed at the siege of Asoph in the year 1697, when, for want of forage, they were turned loose. They have relapsed into a state of nature, and have become as shy and timid as the original savage breed,

The Horses of South America are of Spanish origin, and entirely of the Andalusian breed. They are now become so numerous as to live in herds, some of which are said to consist of ten thousand. As soon as they perceive domestic Horses in the fields, they gallop up to them, caress, and by a kind of grave and prolonged neighing, invite them to run off. These are soon seduced, unite themselves to the independent herd, and depart along with them ; and it not unfrequently happens that travellers are stopped on the road by the effect of this desertion.

The Horse, in an improved state, is found in almost every part of the globe, except, perhaps, within the Arctic circle ; and its reduction and conquest may be considered as the greatest acquisition from the animal world, that the art and industry of man have ever made. As domestics, their docility and gentleness are unparalleled, and they contribute more to the convenience and the pride of man than all other animals put together. In Arabia they are found in their highest perfection. They form the principal riches of many of the Arab tribes. The Arab, his wife, and children, always lie in the same apartment with the mare and foal, who, instead of injuring, suffer the children to rest on their bodies and necks, without in the least incommoding

them : the gentle animals even seem afraid to move, lest they should hurt them. The Arabs never beat nor correct their horses, but always treat them with the utmost kindness.

The whole stock of a poor Arabian of the desert consisted of a Mare ; this the French consul at Said offered to purchase, with an intention to send her to Louis the Fourteenth. The Arab, pressed by want, hesitated a long time, but at length consented, on condition of receiving a considerable sum of money, which he named. The consul wrote to France for permission to close the bargain, and having obtained it, sent immediately to the Arab the information. The man, so poor as to possess only a miserable rag, a covering for his body, arrived with his magnificent courser. He dismounted, and, looking first at the gold and then stedfastly at his Mare, heaved a deep sigh :—" To whom is it (he exclaimed) that I am going to yield thee up ? To Europeans ! who will tie thee close, who will beat thee, who will render thee miserable ! Return with me, my beauty ! my jewel ! and rejoice the hearts of my children !" As he pronounced these last words, he sprang upon her back, and was out of sight almost in a moment. What an amiable and affecting sensibility in a man, who, in the midst of distress, could prefer all the disasters attendant on poverty, rather than surrender the animal that he had long fostered in his tent, and had been the child of his bosom, to what he supposed inevitable misery ! The temptation even of riches, and a relief from poverty, had not sufficient allurements to induce him to so cruel an act.

" The Horses of the Bedouin Arabs, whose lives (says Sonnini) are spent in traversing the scorching sands, are able, notwithstanding the fervency of the sun, and the suffocating heat of the soil over which they pass, to travel for three days without drinking, and are contented with a few handfuls of dried beans, given once in twenty-four hours. From the hardness of their labour and diet, they are, of course, very lean ; yet they preserve incomparable vigour and courage."^a

^a Vide also Museum Asianum, page 192.

The description of the eastern horses in the Book of Job, is exceedingly poetic and expressive :—" Hast thou given the Horse strength? Hast thou clothed his neck with thunder? Canst thou make him afraid as a grasshopper? The glory of his nostrils is terrible. He paweth in the valley, and rejoiceth in his strength : he goeth on to meet the armed men : He mocketh at fear, and is not affrighted ; neither turneth he back from the sword. The quiver rattleth against him, the glittering spear, and the shield. He swalloweth the ground with fierceness and rage : neither believeth he that it is the sound of the trumpet. He saith among the trumpets, ha, ha ; and he smelleth the battle afar off, the thunder of the captains, and the shouting."

In Norway, where most of the roads are impassable for carriages, the Horses are remarkably sure-footed ; they skip along over the stones, and are always full of spirit. Pontoppidan says, when they go up and down a steep cliff, on stones like steps, they first gently tread with one foot, to try if the stone be firm ; and in this they must be left entirely to their own management, or the best rider in the world would run the risk of breaking his neck. When they have to descend steep and slippery places, and such frequently occur, they, in a surprising manner, like the asses of the Alps, draw their hind legs together under their bodies, and thus slide down. They exhibit much courage when they contend, as they are often under the necessity of doing, with wolves and bears, but particularly with the latter. When the Horse perceives any of these animals near him, and has a Mare or Foal with him, he first puts these behind out of the way, and then furiously attacks his enemy with his fore-legs, which he uses so expertly as generally to prove victorious. Sometimes, however, the bear, which has twice the strength of his adversary, gets the advantage, particularly if the Horse make any attempt, by turning round, to strike him with his hind legs ; for the bear then instantly closes upon him, and keeps such firm hold as scarcely to be shaken of : the Horse in this case gallops away with his enemy till he falls down and expires from loss of blood.

There are few countries that can boast a breed of

Horses so excellent as our own. The English hunters are allowed to be among the noblest, most elegant, and useful animals in the world. Whilst the French and many other European nations, seem attentive only to spirit and parade, we train ours principally for strength and dispatch. Theirs, however, have the advantage of never coming down before, as ours do, because in breaking, they put them more on their haunches, while we, perhaps throw them too much forward. With unwearied attention, however, to the breed, and repeated trials of all the best horses in different parts of the world, ours are now more capable of performing what no others can. Among our racers we have had one (*Childers*) which has been known to pass over eighty-two feet and a half in a second of time, a degree of fleetness perhaps unequalled by any other horse. In the year 1745, the post-master of Stretton, rode, on different horses, along the road to and from London, no less than 315 miles in eleven hours and a half, a rate of about eighteen miles an hour : and in July, 1788, a horse belonging to a gentleman of Billiter-square, London, was trotted, for a wager, thirty miles in an hour and twenty-five minutes, which is at the rate of more than twenty-one miles in an hour. In London there have been instances of a single horse drawing; for a short space, the weight of three tons : and some of the pack horses of the north usually carry burdens that weigh upwards of four hundred pounds. But the most remarkable proof of the strength of our British Horses is in our mill horses, some of which have been known to carry, at one load, thirteen measures of corn, that in the whole would amount to more than nine hundred pounds in weight.

Though endowed with vast strength, and with great powers of body, such is the disposition of the horse, that it rarely exerts either to its master's prejudice : on the contrary, it will endure fatigue, even to death, for his benefit. Providence seems to have implanted in him a benevolent disposition, and a fear of the human race, with, at the same time, a certain consciousness of the services we can render him. One instance, however, has been mentioned of recollection of injury, and of an attempt to revenge it. A baronet, one

of whose hunters had never tired in the longest chase, once encouraged the cruel thought of attempting completely to fatigue him. After a long chase, therefore, he dined, and again mounting, rode him furiously among the hills. When brought to the stable, the strength of the animal appeared exhausted, and he was scarcely able to walk. The groom, possessed of more feeling than his brutal master, could not refrain from tears at the sight of so noble an animal thus sunk down. The baronet, some time afterwards entered the stable, and the horse made a furious spring upon him, and had not the groom interfered, would soon have put it out of his power of ever again misusing his animals.

The barbarous practice of docking the tails, and cutting the ears of horses, is in this country very prevalent. The former, principally with waggon horses, under the pretence that a bushy tail collects the dirt of the roads; and the latter, from the notion that they are rendered more elegant in their appearance. Thus from ideal necessity, we deprive them of two parts of the body that are principally instrumental, not only to their own ease and comfort, but to their utility to us. By taking away their ears, the funnels are destroyed which they direct towards the place from which any sound is heard, and they are thus rendered nearly deaf. And in the loss of their tail, they find even a still greater inconvenience. During summer they are perpetually teased with swarms of insects, that either attempt to suck their blood, or to deposit their eggs in the rectum: these they have now no means of lashing off; and in winter they are deprived of a necessary protection against the cold.

But, of all others, the custom we have adopted, (for it is found in no other nation than this,) of nicking them is the most useless and absurd. It is a heart-rending sight to go into the stable of a horse-dealer, and there behold a range of fine and beautiful steeds, with their tails cut and slashed, tied up by pulleys to give them force, suffering such torture that they sometimes never recover the savage gasps they received. And for what is all this done?—that they may hold their tails somewhat higher than they otherwise would, and be for ever

after, deprived of the power of moving the joints of them as a defence against flies !

I have another abuse to notice, observable in those who shoe horses. The blacksmith, in order to save himself a little trouble, will frequently apply the shoe red-hot to the horse's foot, in order that it may burn for itself a bed in the hoof. "The utmost severity (says Lord Pembroke) ought to be inflicted on all those who clap shoes on hot. This unpardonable laziness of farriers, in making feet thus to fit shoes, instead of shoes to fit the feet, dries up the hoofs, and utterly destroys them." It is of the most ruinous consequence : it hardens and cracks the hoofs, and induces even the most fatal disorders.

THE MARMOT.

(From Heron's Elegant Extracts.)

THE Marmot is extremely common in the mountains of Switzerland ; and as many erroneous accounts of this sagacious little animal have been given, the following account, selected from a description written in the German tongue, by Dr. Girtaner cannot fail of being highly interesting to all who love to search into the economy of nature.

The Marmot inhabits the highest and most inaccessible mountains ; prefers the small narrow valleys, and particularly the western or southern aspect as the warmest, and avoids all moist places. On the opening of spring, when he issues from his hole, where he has slept during the winter, he descends to the lower regions, where vegetation is forward. In summer he again ascends to the rocky heights and solitary caverns. He feeds upon herbs and roots. When tame, he eats almost any thing except flesh. In drinking he raises up his head, like fowls, at every sip, looking on each side with a timorous watchfulness. He drinks but little, to which Dr. Amstein attributes his fatness. He is extremely fond of butter and milk.

At break of day the old marmots come out of their holes and feed ; afterwards they bring out their young ones : the latter scamper on all sides, chase each other,

sit on their hind feet, and remain in that posture, facing towards the sun, with an air expressive of satisfaction. They are all particularly fond of warmth, and, when they think themselves secure, will bask in the sun for several hours. Before they collect the grass, either for food, or for their winter habitations, they form themselves into a circle, sitting on their hind legs, and reconnoitre on all sides. On the least alarm, the first gives instantly a shrill cry, which is communicated from one to another, and they escape without repeating the noise. The hunters, by imitating these successive whistlings, approach so near as to come within shot of them.

The marmot has a quick eye, and discovers the enemy at a distance. He never does the least injury to any other animal, and flies when he is pursued. In fact when apprehensive of being followed, whole families quit their dwellings, and wander from mountain to mountain, although they must again construct their habitations: but, when flight is impossible, they defend themselves with spirit against men and dogs, and attack all who approach them with teeth and claws.

They always live together in societies. They have both summer and winter dwellings, which are easily distinguished from each other. The former remain open during the whole year, whereas the latter are closed at the end of September. In the summer dwellings is found dung in great abundance, but no hay; on the contrary, the winter habitations never contain any dung, but much hay. Near the latter is perceived a more considerable quantity of earth, which annually encreases according to the size of the dwelling, and the augmentation of the family.

In the formation of their dwellings, they scoop out the earth with great dexterity and expedition: a small part they throw away, and, by beating the remainder close, render the passage very compact and solid. The opening, being scarcely more than six or seven inches diameter, is just large enough to admit the animal.—The interior is from eight to twenty feet in length; it consists of a passage, which is about five or six feet from the entrance, divided into two branches; the one leading to a small cavity, the other to the chamber in which

they repose. The passage and the two branches, are always carried in a straight line, unless the intervention of a rock, or any other impediment, obliges them to take another direction. The chamber is round or oval, arched at top ; and in its form resembles that of an oven. It is from three to seven feet in diameter, being larger or smaller according to the number of the family. It is strewn with hay, in which the marmots lie in a dormant state during the whole winter.

On retiring to this dwelling about the beginning of October, they carefully close the entrance so as to exclude all air, with a cement of earth mixed with stones and hay. On opening this chamber three weeks after it has been closed, the marmots are discovered lying on the hay close to each other, and rolled up like hedgehogs, without the least appearance of life. Usually from five to sixteen are found together ; sometimes, but rarely, two families occupy the same dwelling ; and, occasionally, but very seldom, one has been discovered alone. If exposed to warmth they awaken. The tame marmots do not sleep during winter ; but, on the approach of that season, excited by instinct, they collect materials towards constructing their dwellings. The wild marmots occupy their winter habitation in October, and quit it towards the latter end of March, or beginning of April. In removing the cement which closes the opening, they do not push it outwards, but draw it inwards, and probably convey the materials, which would block up the principal passage, into the small cavity.

They breed soon after coming out : in June or July young ones have been observed, about the size of rats.

It is probable, that they do not eat during their torpid state ; for the same quantity of hay is observed both in spring and autumn in their winter habitations, and those which have been dug out in that season are thin and perfectly empty. The flesh of the marmot is eatable, and the skin is used for furs.

THE TAME SWAN.

(The Same.)

THIS is the largest of the British birds. It is distinguished externally from the wild swan, first by its size, being much larger, secondly, by the bill, which in this is red, and the tip and sides black, and the skin between the eyes and bill is of the same colour. Over the base of the upper mandible projects a black callous knob: the whole plumage in old birds is white, in young ones ash-coloured till the second year, the legs dusky: but Doctor Plott mentions a variety found on the Trent, near Rugely, with red legs. The swan lays seven or eight eggs, and is near two months in hatching: it feeds on water plants, insects and shells. No bird perhaps makes so inelegant a figure out of water, or has the command of such beautiful attitudes in that element as the swan. Almost every poet has taken notice of it; but none with that justice of description, and in so picturesque a manner, as our Milton.

The swan with arched neck
Between her white wings mantling, proudly rows
Her state with oary feet.

Swans were formerly held in such great esteem in England, that by an act of Edward IV. c. 6 "no one that possessed a freehold of less clear yearly value than five merks, was permitted to keep any, other than the son of our sovereign Lord the King." And by the eleventh of Henry VII. c. 17. the punishment for taking their eggs was imprisonment for a year and a day, and a fine at the king's will, though at present they are not so highly valued as a delicacy, yet great numbers are preserved for their beauty; we see multitudes on the Thames and Trent; but no where greater numbers than on the salt water inlet of the sea, near Abbotsbury in Dorsetshire.

These birds were by the ancients consecrated to the muses; and upon this idea seems to have been engrafted the notion the ancients had of swans being endowed with a musical voice. Though this might be one reason for the fable; yet, to us there appears another still stronger, which arose from the Pythago-

rean doctrine of the transmigration of the soul into the bodies of animals ; from the belief that the body of the swan was allotted for the mansion of departed poets.

THE GOLDEN EAGLE.

(From Bigland's Natural History.)

THE Golden Eagle is the largest and noblest of all the feathered tyrants of this race ; and has obtained among birds the same pre-eminence which the Lion is allowed to possess among the quadruped tribes. From the point of the bill to the extremity of the tail, it measures more than three feet, and about eight feet in breadth, when its wings are extended. The weight of the female is from sixteen to eighteen pounds ; but the male is smaller, and does not commonly exceed twelve pounds. The eagle possesses in an eminent degree the faculty of vision : its eye is remarkably keen and penetrating, although deep sunk and covered by a projecting brow ; and the iris, being of a fine bright yellow, shines with extraordinary lustre. Its general colour is a deep brown, mixed with tawny on the head and neck. The tail is black, and spotted with ash colour : the legs are yellow, and feathered down to the toes ; and the claws are remarkably large, the middle one being two inches in length.

Eagles are seldom found but in mountainous and thinly peopled countries, where they breed among the loftiest cliffs, and in the places which are most remote from man.

Of all the feathered race, the eagle soars to the greatest height, and for this reason has obtained among the ancients the appellation of the bird of Jupiter. As he has not much suppleness in the joints of his legs, he rises slowly from the ground ; but his strength of wing is so great, that he is able to carry off geese, hares, lambs, kids, and even infants themselves have fallen victims to his rapacity ; a circumstance which might possibly give rise to the fable of Ganymede. An instance is recorded of two children in Scotland having been carried off by two Eagles, which being discovered and pursued, had

only just time to lodge them in their nest before they were overtaken, and by that means the two little innocents were restored to their terrified parents without having received any harm.

Smith, in his history of the County of Kerry, relates, that during a summer when the scarcity of provisions amounted almost to a famine, a poor man got a comfortable subsistence for his family out of an eagle's nest, by regularly robbing the young eagles of part of the food provided for them by the old ones; having luckily hit on the expedient of protracting their assiduity beyond the usual time, by clipping their wings, and thus retarding the flight of the young, and having perhaps still more luckily escaped being surprised by the old ones in committing those depredations on their premises. How fatal the consequences of such a surprise might have been, may be easily conjectured, from a circumstance which happened some years ago in the same county. A peasant resolved to rob the nest of an eagle that had built in a small island in the beautiful lake of Killarney. He therefore stripped and swam to the island while the old ones were absent. Having robbed the nest of its young, he was preparing to swim back with the eaglets tied in a string, but when he was up to his chin in the water, the old eagles returned, fell upon the plunderer, and in spite of his resistance, never desisted till they dispatched him with their beaks and their claws.

The eagle is certainly at all times a formidable neighbour, but particularly when bringing up its young. It is then that both the male and the female exert all their force and industry for the supply of their offspring.— Their nest is commonly built in the most inaccessible cliff of the rock, and often shielded from the weather by some projecting crag which overhangs it.

This noble bird is found in various parts of Europe; but it abounds chiefly in the warmer regions. It commonly breeds in the mountainous parts of Ireland. It lays three, and sometimes four eggs, of which it seldom happens that more than two are prolific. Mr. Pennant says, that there are instances, though rare, of their having bred in Snowdon hills, in Wales.

Mr. Wallis, in his Natural History of Northumbria, says, "It formerly had its aerie in the high steepest parts of Cheviot." In the month of . 1735, a very large Eagle was shot near Warwicks which measured from point to point of its wings feet and a quarter.

This formidable tribe of birds admits of many varieties. In the rear of that which is here described, follow the ring-tailed eagle, the common eagle, the bald eagle, the white eagle, the rough-footed eagle, the black eagle, the osprey, the sea eagle, and the crowned eagle. and divers others, form different shades in this noble family; but a particular description of them is unnecessary, as they have all the same general features, the same rapacity, and the same habits, and are all renowned for their longevity. The eagle has often been said to live a hundred years; it is said that it does not then die of old age or debility, but from the beak falling inward on the under mandible, which prevents it from taking any food. Its longevity is not, however, more remarkable than its power of supporting abstinence. An eagle, in the possession of Mr. O. remained, through the carelessness of servants, for more than twenty-one days without any kind of sustenance. But even this is less extraordinary than an instance related by M. Buffon, who was assured, by a person of veracity, that one of these birds being caught in a trap, lived five weeks without any kind of aliment, and shewed no symptoms of languor till the last eight days, and it was at last killed in order to terminate its sufferings. When circumstances of this kind happen, they are worthy of remark; but to ascertain by experiment how much any animal is able to endure would be shocking to humanity.

This bird strikingly shews what powers the Creator can bestow on different orders of animals.

THE PARTRIDGE.

(From Bingley's Animal Biography.)

THE extremes of heat and cold are alike unfavourable to the propagation of the Partridge. This bird also flourishes best in cultivated countries, living principally on the labours of the husbandman. In Sweden Partridges burrow beneath the snow; and the whole covey crowd together under this shelter, to guard against the intense cold. In Greenland, the Partridge is brown during summer; but, as soon as the winter sets in, it becomes clothed with a thick and warm down, and its exterior feathers assume the colour of the snow.

Partridges have ever held a distinguished place at the tables of the luxurious, both in this country and in France. We have an old distich:

If the Partridge had the Woodcock's thigh,
 'Twould be the best bird that e'er did fly.

They pair about the third week in February; and sometimes, after pairing, if the weather be very severe, they collect together, and again form into coveys. The female lays her eggs, usually from fifteen to eighteen in number, in a rude nest of dry leaves and grass, formed upon the ground: these are of a greenish grey colour. The period of incubation is three weeks. So closely do these birds sit on their eggs when near hatching, that a Partridge with her nest has been carried in a hat to some distance, and in confinement has continued her incubation, and there produced young ones.

The affection of Partridges for their offspring is peculiarly interesting. Both the parents lead them out to feed; they point out to them the proper places for their food, and assist them in finding it by scratching the ground with their feet. They frequently sit close together covering the young-ones with their wings; and from this protection they are not easily roused. If however, they are disturbed, most persons acquainted with rural affairs know the confusion that ensues. The male gives the first signal of alarm, by a peculiar cry of distress? throwing himself at the same moment more immediately into the way of danger, in order to mislead

the enemy. He flutters along the ground, hanging his wings, and exhibiting every symptom of debility. By this stratagem he seldom fails of so far attracting the attention of the intruder, as to allow the female to conduct the helpless, unfledged brood into some place of security. "A Partridge (says Mr. White, who gives an instance of this instinctive sagacity) came out of a ditch, and ran along shivering with her wings, and crying out as if wounded and unable to get from us. While the dam feigned this distress, a boy who attended me saw the brood, which was small and unable to fly, run for shelter into an old fox's hole, under the bank." Mr. Markwick relates, that "once as he was hunting with a young pointer, the dog ran on a brood of very small Partridges. The old bird cried, fluttered, and ran tumbling along just before the dog's nose, till she had drawn him to a considerable distance; when she took wing and flew further off, but not out of the field. On this the dog returned nearly to the place where the young-ones lay concealed in the grass: this the old bird no sooner perceived than she flew back again, settled just before the dog's nose, and a second time acted the same part, rolling and tumbling about till she drew off his attention from her brood, and thus succeeded in preserving them."

This gentleman says also, that, when a kite was once hovering over a covey of young Partridges, he saw the old birds fly up at the ferocious enemy, screaming and fighting with all their might to preserve their brood.

It is said that those Partridges which are hatched under a domestic hen, retain through life the habit of *calling* whenever they hear the clucking of hens.

The Partridge, even when reared by the hand, soon neglects those who have the care of it; and, shortly after its full growth, altogether estranges itself from the house where it was bred.* This will almost inva-

* In the year 1811, when the Editor of this work resided in Coleham, a suburb of Shrewsbury, and equally populous with the town itself. One evening, in the latter end of that year, John Jenkins, (a neigh-

riably be its conduct, however intimately it may have connected itself with the place and inhabitants in the early part of its existence. Among the few instances of the Partridge's remaining tame, was that of one reared by the Rev. Mr. Bird. This, long after its full growth, attended the parlour at breakfast and other times, received food from any hand that gave it, stretched itself before the fire, and seemed much to enjoy the warmth. At

bour and tenant,) brought him a fine Partridge alive, which he said had flown into his house and taken shelter under a chest of drawers—he had caught it and begged his landlord's acceptance of it: at the same time Jenkins remarked he was very much alarmed by the circumstance, as he had heard his parents relate that a Partridge found its way in a similar manner into their dwelling, and that shortly after a brother of his came to an untimely end. The editor endeavoured to calm the fears of the poor fellow, by representing to him the absurdity of his apprehensions, it being impossible that such circumstances should have any connection with, or influence on each other. The bird was accepted; and in order to tame, and to preserve it alive it was turned into a large corn warehouse, then part of the Cotton Manufactory, where it remained for nearly a month; when one evening it burst through a glass window, breaking the panes by the violence of its flight against them, and escaped: and what is most singular, this occurred at the very moment Jenkins's child was on fire, and finally burnt to death. The editor assisted in having the unfortunate child conveyed to the Salop Infirmary, where it expired; Jenkins sitting by its side and exclaiming against the poor bird, as the *cause*, rather than the prognosticator of the catastrophe. The circumstances are singular, but whether purely accidental, or governed by some particular Providence, cannot easily be determined: suppose the latter, the bird came to warn Jenkins and to stimulate him and his family to care and watchfulness against accidents or danger; and having performed its mission, returned to its native liberty and fields.

length, it fell a victim to that foe of all favourite the cat.

On the farm of Lion Hall, in Essex, belonging Colonel Hawker, a Partridge, in the year 1788, for her nest, and hatched sixteen eggs, *on the top pollard oak-tree*. What renders this circumstance more remarkable is, that the tree had, fastened the bars of a stile, where there was a footpath; and passengers, in going over, discovered and disturbed before she sat close. When the brood was hatched the birds scrambled down the short and rough bark which grew out all around from the trunk of the tree and reached the ground in safety.

THE GREAT WHALE.

(*The Same.*)

THE size and bulk of these animals are enormous; and their muscular powers are so great that a blow of their horizontal tail, is at any time sufficient to upset a boat; and, when struck upon the face of the ocean, it makes the water fly, with tremendous noise, in all directions. They are able to draw water from the spiracles on their head, to a great height.

Nature's strange work, vast Whales of different kind
Toss up the troubled flood and are themselves a staid
Uncouth the sight, when they, in dreadful play
Discharge their nostrils, and refund a sea;
Or angry lash the foam with hideous sound,
And scatter all the watery dust around.
Fearless the fierce destructive monsters roll,
Engulph the fish, and drive the flying shoal.
In deepest seas these living isles appear,
And deepest seas can scarce their pressure bear;
Their bulk would more than fill the shelvy strait,
And fathom'd depths would yield beneath their weight.


This animal employs the tail alone to advance in the water; and the force and celerity with which enormous a body cuts its way through the ocean truly astonishing. A track is frequently made in the water like what would be left by a large ship; it is called his wake, and by this the animal is often followed. The fins are only applied in turning, and giving a direction.

tion to the velocity impressed by the tail. The usual rate at which the Whales swim, seldom, however, exceeds four miles an hour. When alarmed, their extreme velocity is eight or nine miles an hour, but this seldom continues more than a few minutes at a time. These animals sometimes ascend to the surface with so much velocity as to leap entirely out of the water. Sometimes they throw themselves into a perpendicular posture, with their heads downward; and rearing their tails on high in the air, they beat the water with awful violence. In both these cases, the sea is thrown into a foam, and the air filled with vapours. Sometimes the Whale shakes its tremendous tail in the air, and makes with it a cracking noise, which is heard at the distance of two or three miles.

When a Whale retires from the surface of the water into the deep, it first lifts its head, then, plunging beneath the waves, elevates its back, like the segment of a sphere, deliberately rounds it away towards the extremity, throws its tail out of the water, and then disappears.

These Whales are shy and timid animals, furnished with no weapons either of offence or defence, except their tail. As soon as they perceive the approach of a boat, they generally plunge under water, and sink into the deep; but when they find themselves in danger they exhibit their great and surprising strength. In this case they break to pieces whatever comes in their way; and if they run foul of a boat, they dash it to atoms.

Whales have no voice; but, in breathing, or blowing through their spiracles, they make a very loud noise. The water which they discharge, is ejected to the height of several yards, and at a distance appears like a puff of smoke. When these animals are undisturbed, they usually remain on the surface of the water about two minutes at a time, during which they breathe eight or nine times, and then descend for an interval of five or ten minutes; or, when feeding, fifteen or twenty. The depth to which they usually descend is not very great; but, when struck with a harpoon, they sometimes draw out from the boats, in a perpendicular



descent, as much line as would measure an English mile.

When the Whale feeds, it swims with considerable velocity below the surface of the sea, with its jaws widely extended. A stream of water consequently enters its capacious mouth, and along with it, immense quantities of cuttle-fish, sea-blubber, shrimps, and other small marine animals. The water escapes at the sides; but the food is entangled, and, as it were, sifted by the whalebone within the mouth.

From their naturally inoffensive disposition these animals have many foes; but the enemy they have most reason to dread is the sword-fish. This animal is sufficiently active to evade the blows which its tremendous adversary makes with its tail, one of which, if it took place, must effectually destroy it. The sea for a considerable space around, may be seen dyed with blood that issues in copious streams from the wounds made in the Whale's body by the dreadful beak of his adversary. The noise made at each blow of the tail, is said to be louder than that of a cannon. The fishermen in calm weather, frequently lie on their oars as spectators of the combat, till they perceive the Whale at his last gasp; they then row towards him, and, the enemy retiring at their approach, they enjoy the fruits of his victory.

The fidelity of the male and female to each other, exceeds that of most animals. Some fishermen, as Anderson, in his History of Greenland, informs us, having struck one of two Whales, a male and female, that were in company together, the wounded animal made a long and terrible resistance: with a single blow of its tail it upset a boat containing three men, by which all went to the bottom. The other still attended its companion, and lent it every assistance, till, at last, the animal that was struck sank under the number of its wounds, while its faithful associate, disdaining to survive the loss, stretched itself upon the dead Whale, and shared its fate.

To the Greenlanders, as well as to the natives, of southern climates, the Whale is an animal of essential importance; and these people spend much time in fish-

ing for it. When they set out on their Whale-catching expeditions, they dress themselves in their best apparel, fancying that if they are not cleanly and neatly clad, the Whale, who detests a slovenly and dirty garb, would immediately avoid them. In this manner about fifty persons, men and women, set out together in one of their large boats. The women carry along with them their needles and other implements, to mend their husband's clothes, in case they should be torn, and to repair the boat, if it happen to receive any damage. When the men discover a Whale, they strike it with their harpoons, to which are fastened lines or straps two or three fathoms long, made of seal-skin, having at the end a bag of a whole seal-skin blown up. The huge animal, by means of the inflated bag, is in some degree compelled to keep near the surface of the water. When he is fatigued and rises, the men attack him with their spears till he is killed. They now put on their *spring jackets* (made, all in one piece, of a dressed seal's skin) with their boots, gloves, and caps, which are laced so tightly to each other, that no water can penetrate them. In this garb they plunge into the sea, and begin to slice off the fat all round the animal's body, even from those parts that are under the water; for, their jackets being full of air the men do not sink, and they have means of keeping themselves upright in the sea. They have sometimes been known so daring as, while the Whale was still alive; to mount on his back and kill him from thence.

The period of gestation in the female is supposed to be nine or ten months, and she generally produces but one at a birth. When she suckles it she throws herself on one side, on the surface of the water, and in this position the young one attaches itself to the teat. She is extremely careful of her offspring, carrying it with her wherever she goes; and, when hardest pursued, supporting it between her fins. Even when wounded she is said still to clasp it; and, if she plunge to avoid danger, she takes it with her to the bottom; but in this case she always rises sooner than she otherwise would, for the purpose of giving it breath. The young ones continue with the dams for nearly twelve months; during

this time they are called by the sailors *short-heads*. They are then extremely fat, and will yield each above fifty barrels of blubber. At two years old they have the name of *Stunts*, from not thriving much immediately after quitting the breast: at this age they will scarcely yield more than twenty barrels of blubber. From the age of two years they are denominated *skull-fish*.

The seas that are principally inhabited by the Great Whales, are those in about the seventeenth degree of north latitude, near Spitzbergen and Greenland. These animals are likewise found in the Seas of the high southern latitudes, and are said sometimes to visit the shores even of countries near the torrid zone. They have been observed in the Mediterranean, and occasionally in the neighbourhood of the British coasts. Willoughby speaks of one that was stranded near Timmouth in Northumberland. In the year 1652, a Great Whale, eighty feet in length, was cast ashore in the Frith of Froth, and, about thirty years afterwards another somewhat more than seventy feet in length, near Peterhead, in Scotland.

THE WHITE SHARK.

(*The Same.*)

THE animals that compose this rapacious tribe, are entirely marine, and are more frequent in hot than in temperate climates. They are in general solitary, and often wander to vast distances, devouring almost every thing that comes in their way, which they are able to swallow. Some of them will follow vessels several hundred leagues, for the carcases and filth that are thrown overboard. The size to which they grow is enormous, as they often weigh from one to four thousand pounds each. Some few species are gregarious, and live on molluscs and other marine worms. They are all viviparous; their offspring, when first protruded, being enclosed (alive) in a square, pellucid, horny case, terminated at the four corners by long, slender filaments, which are generally found twisted round corallines, sea-weed, and other fixed substances.

Their flesh is altogether so tough, coarse, and of such a disagreeable smell, that even the young ones are scarcely eatable. Their bodies emit a phosphoric light in the dark. The skin is rough, and is in general use for polishing ivory, wood, and other substances; thongs and carriage traces are also occasionally made of it. The liver is generally found to yield a considerable quantity of oil. There are upwards of thirty species, of which eleven are found in the British seas.

The White Shark is of all the most dreadful, he has six rows of teeth, hard, sharply pointed, and of a wedge-like figure. These he has the power of erecting and depressing at pleasure. When the animal is at rest, they are quite flat in his mouth; but, when prey is to be seized, they are instantly erected by a set of muscles that join them to the jaw. Thus, with open mouth, goggling eyes, and large and bristly fins, his whole aspect is an emphatical picture of the fiercest, deepest, and most savage malignity.

It is a fortunate circumstance, for those who would avoid its attacks, that its mouth is so situated, under the head, that it has to throw itself on one side in order to seize its prey; for its velocity in the water is so great, that nothing of which it was once in pursuit, would otherwise be able to escape its voracity.

These creatures are the dread of sailors in all the hot climates; for they constantly attend ships, in expectation of what may fall overboard; and if, while a Shark is present, any of the men have that misfortune, they inevitably perish.

Increasing still the terrors of the storms,
His jaws terrific arm'd with threelord fate,
Here dwells the direful Shark. Lured by the scent
Of steaming crowds, of rank disease, and death,
Behold! he rushing cuts the briny flood,
Swift as the gale can bear the ship along;
And, from the partners of that cruel trade
Which spoils unhappy Guinea of her sons,
Demands his share of prey, demands themselves.
The stormy fates descend, one death involves
Tyrant and slaves; when straight, their mangled limbs
Crashing at once, he dyes the purple seas
With gore, and riots in the vengeful meal.

The master of a Guinea ship informed Mr. Pennant, that a rage for suicide prevailed among his slaves, from an opinion entertained by the unfortunate wretches, that, after death, they should be restored to their families, friends, and country. To convince them that their bodies could never be reanimated, he ordered the corpse of one that was just dead, to be tied by the heels to a rope, and lowered into the sea. It was drawn up again as quickly as the united force of the crew could do it; yet, in that short time, the Sharks had devoured every part but the feet, which were secured by the end of the cord.

Persons, while swimming, have often been seized and devoured by Sharks. The late Sir Brooke Watson was, some years ago, swimming at a little distance from a ship, when he saw a Shark making towards him. Struck with terror at its approach, he cried out for assistance. A rope was instantly thrown; and even while the men were in the act of drawing him up the ship's side, the monster darted after him, and, at a single snap, tore off his leg.

In the pearl-fisheries of South America, every negro, in order to defend himself against these animals, carries with him into the water a sharp knife, which, if the fish offer to assault him, he endeavours to strike into its belly; on which it generally swims off. The officers who are in the vessels, keep a watchful eye on these voracious creatures; and, when they observe them approach, shake the ropes fastened to the negroes, in order to put them on their guard. Many, when the divers have been in danger, have thrown themselves into the water, with knives in their hands, and have hastened to their defence: but too often all their dexterity and precaution have been of no avail.

We are told, that in the reign of queen Anne, some of the men of an English merchant ship, which had arrived at Barbadoes, were one day bathing in the sea, when a large Shark appeared, and sprung forward directly at them. A person from the ship called out to warn them of their danger; on which they all immediately swam to the vessel, and arrived in perfect safety, except one poor man, who was cut in two by the Shark,

almost within reach of the oars. A comrade and intimate friend of the unfortunate victim, when he observed the severed trunk of his companion, was seized with a degree of horror, that words cannot describe. The insatiable Shark was seen traversing the bloody surface in search of the remainder of his prey, when the brave youth plunged into the water, determining either to make the Shark disgorge, or to be buried himself in the same grave. He held in his hand a long and sharp-pointed knife, and the rapacious animal pushed furiously towards him : he had turned on his side, and had opened his enormous jaws, in order to seize him, when the youth, diving dexterously under, seized him with his left hand, somewhere below the upper fins, and stabbed him several times in the belly. The Shark, enraged with pain, and streaming with blood, plunged in all directions in order to disengage himself from his enemy. The crews of the surrounding vessels saw that the combat was decided ; but they were ignorant which was slain, until the Shark, weakened by loss of blood, made towards the shore, and along with him his conqueror ; who, flushed with victory, pushed his foe with redoubled ardour, and, by the aid of an ebbing tide, dragged him on shore. Here he ripped up the bowels of the animal, obtained the severed remainder of his friend's body, and buried it with the trunk in the same grave. This story, however incredible it may appear, is related in the History of Barbadoes, on the most satisfactory authority.

THE VIPER.

(The Same.)

THE apparatus of poison in the Viper is very similar to that in the rattle-snake, and all the other poisonous serpents. The most esteemed remedy is common salad oil, thoroughly rubbed on the wounded part. This is always used by the viper-catchers. The bite of the viper in this country, although it produces a painful and troublesome swelling, is rarely attended with any other bad consequence.

The Viper is the only one, either of the Reptile or Serpent tribes, in Great Britain, from whose bite we have any thing to fear. All the others are either entirely destitute of poison, or if thy possess any, it is not injurious to man.

These animals are viviparous, and produce their offspring towards the close of summer. The eggs, which are hatched in the womb, are usually ten or twelve only in number, and chained together somewhat like a string of beads. When the young ones have burst the shell, they creep from their confinement into the open air, where they continue for several days without taking any food. The Rev. Mr. White, of Selbourne, in company with a friend, surprised a large female Viper, which, as she lay on the grass, basking in the sun, seemed very heavy and bloated. They killed and opened her, and found in the abdomen fifteen young ones, about the size of full-grown earth worms. This little fry issued into the world with the true Viper spirit about them, showing great alertness as soon as they were disengaged from the body of the parent. They twisted and wriggled about, set themselves up, and gaped very wide when touched with a stick exhibiting manifest tokens of menace and defiance, though as yet no fangs were to be discovered, even by the help of glasses.

That young Vipers, for some time after their birth, retreat, when suddenly alarmed, into the mouth of the female, in the same manner as the young of the opossum do into the abdominal pouch of their parent, seems a fact satisfactorily ascertained.

They are capable of supporting long abstinence: a Viper was kept more than six months in a box without food; during which time its vivacity was not lessened. When at liberty these animals remain torpid throughout the winter; yet, when confined they have never been observed to take their annual repose.

THE COMMON OR RINGED SNAKE.

(The Same.)

THE Common or Ringed Snakes are well-known inhabitants of moist and warm woods in this country, the dry banks of which they are often seen during summer, either sleeping or basking themselves, they are harmless and inoffensive animals, being totally stitute of every means of injuring mankind.

In winter these snakes conceal themselves, and become nearly torpid; re-appearing in spring, when they uniformly cast their skins. This is a process which they seem to undergo in the autumn. Mr. White says, About the middle of this month, (September) we found in a field, near a hedge, the slough of a large snake, which seemed to have been newly cast. It appeared as if turned wrong side outward, and as if it had been drawn off backward, like a stocking or woman's shoe. Not only the whole skin, but even the scales on the eyes were peeled off, and appeared in the head of the slough like a pair of spectacles. The reptile, at the time of changing his coat, had entangled himself intricately in the grass and weeds, in order that the motion of the stalks and blades might promote this various shifting of his exuvia.

It would be a most entertaining sight, could a person be an eye-witness to such a feat, and see the snake in the act of changing its garment. As the convexity of the eyes in the slough is not inward, that circumstance alone is a proof that the skin has been turned; not to mention that now the inside is much darker than the outer. Thus it appears that snakes crawl out of the mouth of their own sloughs, and quit the tail-part last, just as eels are skinned by a cook maid. While the scales of the eyes are becoming loose, and a new skin forming, the creature, in appearance, must be blind, and must feel itself in a very awkward and uneasy situation.

Several instances have occurred of the Common Snake being in some degree domesticated. Mr. White says that he knew a gentleman who had one in his house quite tame. Though this snake was usually as

sweet in its person as any other animal, yet whenever a stranger, or a dog or cat entered, it would begin to hiss, and would soon fill the room with a stench so nauseous as to be almost insupportable.

The Rev. Revett Sheppard, F. L. S. when an undergraduate of Caius College, Cambridge, had a Common Snake in his rooms nearly three months. He kept it in a box of bran; and, during all that time, he never could discover that it ate any thing, although he frequently put both eggs and frogs, the favourite food of this species, into the box. When he was in the room he used to let the animal out of its prison. It would first crawl several times round the floor, apparently with a desire to escape; and, when it found its attempts fruitless, would climb up the tables and chairs, and not unfrequently even up the chair of its owner, as he sat at table. At length it became so familiar as to lie in a serpentine form on the upper bar of his chair: it would crawl through his fingers, if held at little distance before its head, or lie at full length upon his table, while he was writing or reading, and this for an hour or more at a time. When first brought into the room, it used to hiss and dart out its forked tongue; but in no instance did it emit any unpleasant vapour. In all its actions it was remarkably cleanly. Sometimes it was indulged with a run upon the grass, in the court of the college; and sometimes with a swim in a large basin of water, which it seemed to enjoy very much. When this gentleman left the University, he gave his bed-maker orders to turn it out into the fields; which, he believes, was done.

THE LOCUSTS OF ESTREMADURA.

(From the observations of Don Guillermo Bowles, and other Authorities.)

THE Locusts are continually seen in the southern parts of Spain, particularly in the pastures and remote, uncultivated districts of Estremadura, but in general, are not taken notice of, if not very numerous, as they commonly feed upon wild herbs, without preying upon gardens, and cultivated lands, or making their way

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into houses. The peasants look at them with indifference, while they are frisking about in the fields, neglecting any measures to destroy them, till the danger is imminent, and the favourable moment to remedy the evil is elapsed.

Having spent many hours and days in observing the labours and breeding of the Locusts, I shall now proceed to describe them. The female begins by stretching out her six legs, fixing her claws in the ground, and holding with her teeth to the grass, she then expands her wings to press her chest close to the ground; where clinging firmly, and raising that part of the belly, where she has an instrument, after forming a right angle with her body, she fixes it with such strength, that it fastens to the hardest earth, and even to stone; she has all the necessary apparatus to make a perforation, but this alone would not answer the purpose, a place being still wanted wherein she may deposit her eggs.

This hollow cavity is made in about two hours, she then begins to shift the earth underneath, and emits the glutinous substance. Having thus kneaded the earth into a substantial paste and smoothed the floor with her trunk, she lays the first egg, then renews the operation, and lays more with admirable order, and after various repetitions, completes the whole in about four or five hours; next covering the superior aperture with a glutinous composition, the structure is perfect, with every advantage against the inclemency of the weather, or any hostile invasion.

The female is now overcome with fatigue, few having strength, like the male, to seek after refreshing waters; but, exhausted and spent, they expire close to their progeny, exhibiting a melancholy sight to the labourer, who, from their appearance, foretells the mischiefs to follow, without being able to prevent them; forming an idea of the hidden enemies, who are to devour his harvest, from the multitude of carcases he finds dispersed in the fields.

When they first come out of the egg, they are black, of the size of a gnat, and gather in great heaps at the foot of shrubs, particularly the spartum, or matweed, continually leaping upon each other, and occupying a

space of three or four feet circumference, two inches high. The first time I beheld this sight, it surprised me exceedingly, to observe this moving body, like a mourning scarf waving about, as at this period they only live upon dew, and are frisking about to catch it.—For a few days they move at a very little distance, their limbs being weak, their wings very small, and their teeth not sufficiently strong to bite the grass. In about twenty days, they begin to feed on the youngest shoots of plants, and as they grow up, they leave the society of each other, and range further off, consuming day and night every thing they fix upon, till their wings have acquired a full degree of strength; in the mean time they seem to devour, not so much from a ravenous appetite, as from a rage of destroying every thing that comes in their way. It is not surprising that they should be fond of the most juicy plants and fruits, such as melons, and all manner of garden fruits, and herbs, feeding also on aromatic plants, such as lavender, thyme, rosemary, &c. which are so common in Spain, that they serve to heat ovens; but it is very singular, that they equally eat mustard, onions, and garlic; nay, even hemlock, and the most rank and poisonous plants, such as the thorn apple, and deadly night shade. They will even prey upon cow-foot, whose causticity burns the very hides of beasts, and such is their universal taste, that they do not prefer the innocent mallow to the bitter furze, or rue to wormwood, consuming all alike, without predilection or favour, with this remarkable circumstance, that during the four years they committed such havock in Estremadura, the love-apple, or *licopersicon solanum* of Linnæus, was the only plant that escaped their rapacious tooth, and claimed a respect to its root, leaves, flowers and fruit. Naturalists may search for their motives, which I am at a loss to discover, the more, as I saw a million of them light on a field near Almaden, and devour the woollen and linen garments of the peasants, which were lying to dry on the ground. The curate of the village, a man of veracity, at whose house I was, assured me, that a tremendous body of them entered the church, and devoured the silk garments that adorned the images of saints, not sparing

even the varnish on the altars. The better to discover the nature of such a phenomenon, I examined the stomach of the locust, but only found one thin and soft membrane, with which, and the liquor it contains, it destroys and dissolves all kinds of substances, equally with the most caustic and venomous plants, extracting from them a sufficient and salutary nourishment.

Out of curiosity to know the nature of so formidable a creature, I was urged to examine all its parts with the utmost exactness. Its head is of the size of a pea, though longer, its forehead pointed downwards, like a handsome Andalusian horse, its mouth large and open, its eyes black and rolling, added to a timid aspect, not unlike a hare. With such a dastard countenance, who would imagine this creature to be the scourge of mankind? In its two jaws, it has four incisive teeth, whose sharp points traverse each other like scissars, their mechanism being such as to gripe or to cut. Thus armed, what can resist a legion of such enemies; after devouring the vegetable kingdom, were they, in proportion to their strength and numbers, to become carnivorous like wasps, they would be able to destroy whole flocks of sheep, even the dogs and shepherds; just as we are told of ants in America, that will overcome the fiercest serpents.

Before a flock of Locusts, the clear atmosphere of Spain becomes gloomy, and the finest summer day of Extremadura more dismal than the winter of Holland. The rustling of so many millions of wings in the air, seems like the trees of a forest, agitated by the wind. The first direction of this formidable column is always against the wind, which, if not too strong, it will extend about a couple of leagues; they then make a halt, when the most dreadful havoc begins; their sense of smell being delicate, they can find at that distance a corn field or a garden, and after demolishing it, rise again, in pursuit of another: this may be said to be done in an instant. Each seems to have as it were four arms and two feet; the males climb up the plants as sailors do the shrouds of a ship; they nip off the tenderest buds, which fall to the females below.

We learn by tradition, as well as from history, that these Locusts have been a plague to the meridional provinces of Spain time immemorial. I remember to have heard in an old Spanish novel, the following question: "Which was the animal that resembled most all other animals?" the answer was, "the Locust; because he has the horns of a stag, the eyes of a cow, the forehead of a horse, the legs of a crane, the neck of a snake, and the wings of a dove."

However puerile this may appear, it proves the great length of time they have been known, as well as dreaded. Many old people assured me, when so much mischief was done in 1745, it was the third time in their remembrance, and that they always are found in the pasture grounds of Estremadura, from whence they spread into the other provinces of Spain."

In the year 1650, a cloud of Locusts was seen to enter Russia. and spread themselves over Poland and Lithuania, in such astonishing multitudes, that the air was darkened and the earth covered with their numbers. The damage the country sustained from their ravages exceeded computation.

In 1748, a swarm of Locusts visited England, from which dreadful consequences were apprehended, but happily no great damage was done.

Orosius tells us that in the year of the World 3,800, Africa was infested with a multitude of Locusts. After having eaten up every thing that was green, they flew off, and were drowned in the sea, where they caused such a stench as could not have been equalled by the putrefying carcases of one hundred thousand men.

In 1797, says Mr. Barrow, in the part of Southern Africa in which he then was, "the whole surface of an area of nearly 2000 miles might be said to be literally covered with Locusts."

Each quarter of the Globe has been more or less annoyed by them. Europe the least of any.

ANIMALCULES.

THE microscope discovers legions of animalcules in most liquors, as water, vinegar, beer, dew, &c. They are also found in rain, and several chalybeate waters, and in infusions of both animal and vegetable substances, as the seminal fluids of animals, pepper, oats, wheat, and other grain, tea, &c. The contemplation of animalcules has rendered the term, *infinitely* small bodies, extremely familiar to us. A mite was anciently thought the limits of littleness ; but we are not now surprised, to be told of animals twenty-seven millions of times smaller than a mite. Minute animals are found proportionably much stronger, more active and vivacious, than large ones. The spring of a flea in its leap, how vastly does it outskip any thing the larger animals are capable of ! A mite, how vastly swifter does it run than a race-horse ! M. De L'Isle has given the computation of the velocity of a little creature, scarcely visible by its smallness ; which he found to run three inches in half a second : supposing now its feet to be the fifteenth part of a line, it must make five hundred steps in the space of three inches ; that is, it must shift its legs five hundred times in a second, or in the ordinary pulsation of an artery. The excessive minuteness of microscopical animalcules conceals them from the human eye. One of the wonders of modern philosophy is, to have invented means for bringing objects, to us so imperceptible, under our cognizance and inspection : creatures, a thousand times too little to be able to affect our senses, should seem to have been very safe ; yet we have extended our views over animals, to whom these would be mountains.

Leuwenhoek calculates, that a thousand millions of animalcules, which are discovered in common water, are not altogether so large as a grain of sand. In the milt of a single cod-fish, there are more animals than there are upon the whole earth ; for a grain of sand is bigger than four millions of them. The white matter that sticks to the teeth also abounds with animalcules of various figures, to which vinegar is fatal ; and it is known, that vinegar contains animalcules in the shape

of eels. In short, according to this author, there is scarcely any thing which corrupts without producing animalcules.

VEGETABLES.

(The Editor and Various Authorities.)

THE difference between animals and vegetables is so great, that at first we do not perceive any resemblance between them. Some animals only live in water; others on the earth, or in the air; and some are amphibious, or live equally well in water as upon land. And this is literally the case with vegetables: some of them only grow upon land, others in the water; some can scarcely bear any moisture, others live either in earth or water; and some even are found that exist in the air.

It is said, that there are about 44,000 different plants already discovered, to which new ones are daily added. Such is the wisdom displayed over the surface of the earth, that there is no part of it wholly destitute, and no part enjoys them in too great abundance. Some plants require the open field, where, unsheltered by trees, they may receive the sun's rays; others can only exist in water; some grow in the sand; others in marshes and fens, which are frequently covered with water, and some bud on the surface of the earth, whilst others unfold themselves in its bosom. The different strata which compose the soil of the earth, as sand, clay, chalk, &c. favour different vegetables; and hence it is, that in the vast garden of nature nothing is absolutely sterile; from the finest sand to the flinty rock, from the torrid to the frozen zone, each soil and climate supports plants peculiar to itself. Another circumstance highly worthy of attention is, the Creator has so ordered, that, among this immense variety of plants, those which are most proper for food or medicine multiply in greater abundance than those which are of less utility. Herbs are much more numerous than trees and brambles; grass is in greater abundance than oaks; and cher-

ry-trees more plentiful than apricots: had oaks been more frequent than grass, or trees than herbs or roots, it would have been impossible for animals to subsist.

According to the calculation of Baron Von Humboldt, 6000 plants are *agamous*, that is, plants which have no sexual organs, such as champignons, lichens, &c. Of the remainder there are found—

In Europe	7000
In the temperate regions of Asia	1,500
In Equinoxial Asia, and the adjacent Islands ..	4,500
In Africa	3,000
In the temperate regions of America, in both hemispheres	4,000
In Equinoxial America	13,000
In New Holland, and the Islands of the Pacific Ocean	5,000
Total	<hr/> 38,000 <hr/>

THE ENGLISH OAK.

(*The Same.*)

ANY description of this monarch of the woods must be superfluous, we shall therefore merely record a few instances of its extraordinary age and growth.

Mr. Gilpin in his *Forest Scenery*, gives the following account of an aged oak:—

“Close by the gate of the Water-walk, at Magdalen College in Oxford, grew an oak, which perhaps stood there a sapling when Alfred the Great founded the university. This period only includes a space of nine hundred years, which is no great age for an oak. It is a difficult matter indeed to ascertain the age of a tree. The age of a castle or abbey is the object of history; even a common house is recorded by the family that built it. All these objects arrive at maturity in their youth, if I may so speak. But the tree gradually completing its growth, is not worth recording in the early part of its existence: it is then only a common tree; and afterwards, when it becomes remarkable for its age, all memory of its youth is lost. This tree, how-

ever, can almost produce historical evidence for the age assigned to it."

About five hundred years after the time of Alfred, William of Wainfleet, Dr. Stukely tells us, expressly ordered this college to be founded near the great oak; (*Itiner. Curios.*) and an oak could not, I think, be less than five hundred years of age, to merit that title, together with the honour of fixing the site of a college. When the magnificence of Cardinal Wolsey erected that handsome tower which is so ornamental to the whole building, this tree might probably be in the meridian of its glory; or rather, perhaps it had attained a green old age. But it must have been manifestly in its decline, at that memorable æra, when the tyranny of James gave the fellows of Magdalen so noble an opportunity of withstanding bigotry and superstition. It was afterwards much injured in the time of Charles II, when the present walks were laid out: its roots were disturbed; and from that period it declined fast, and became reduced by degrees to little more than a mere trunk. The oldest members of the university can scarcely recollect it in better plight: but the faithful records of history have handed down its ancient dimensions.

It once flung its boughs through a space of sixteen yards on every side from its trunk; and under its magnificent pavilion could have sheltered with ease three thousand men: though in its decayed state, it could for many years, do little more than shelter some luckless individual, whom the driving shower had overtaken in his evening walk. In the summer of the year 1789, this magnificent ruin fell to the ground, alarming the college with its crashing sound. It then appeared how precariously it had stood for many years. Its grand tap-root was decayed; and it had hold of the earth only by two or three roots, of which none was more than a couple of inches in diameter. From a part of its ruins, a chair has been made for the president of the college which will long continue its memory.

For the following account of the Shelton Oak we are indebted to Reverends Archdeacon Owen's and J. B. Blakeway's valuable History of Shrewsbury.

"The tradition that Glendower ascended the old oak still remaining at Shelton (say the Authors) needs not to be doubted on account of the remote period to which it refers. Nothing is more creditable than that a tree may have been the loftiest of its neighbours in 1403, and continue to exist with some degree of vigour in 1822. If the oak called Cybren-yr-Ellyll, near Nannau in Merionethshire, which fell July 13th, 1813, were the same into the trunk of which Glendower thrust Hywel Sele, about the year 1403, it must have exceeded in age our Shelton tree, as it was already hollow in the days of that chieftain. That in the gardens of Magdalen College, Oxford, which Waynflete is said to specify as a boundary of his recent purchase in 1456, and which fell down June 30, 1789, would probably have lasted many years longer, but for a serious injury which it received when the gardens were laid out. But the Tortsworth chesnut,* a boundary of that manor in the reign of Stephen and George IV., is computed to have been growing more than 1000 years: and if the plane-tree which Menelaus planted before the Trojan war was the same which Pausanias describes as "great and fair" in his time, it cannot have been younger than 1330 years. But the eldest of these respectable vegetables shrinks to the youth of a sapling, when compared with the tree, under the shadow of whose spreading boughs the father of the faithful entertained the angels at Mamre 1900 years before the Christian era, which continued to the days of Josephus, nearly seventy after it, and in honour of which, then, as it seems, still existing, the emperor Constantine erected an oratory about A. D. 330. More examples might easily be added; and if part of them should be deemed somewhat apocryphal, enough yet remain to bring the tradition of the Shelton oak within the limits of the clearest probability. Positive evidence is, however, not wanting. Among the title-deeds of Richard Hill Waring, Esq. is a paper subscribed "per me Adam Waring," and entitled, "*How the grette oake at Shelton standeth on my ground.*"

* This tree was 52 feet in circumference.—ED.

" Davis (sic)

" Md. that Thomas a my tennaunt at Shelton told me
 " in Shelton's fyldes comyng from Bycketon the 1111th day
 " of Ap'ell a°. 1543, before Wm Tydde' theldr dwelling
 " at or by Wodcote. That he hathe hard his fadr and
 " other auneyent men dwelling in Shelton long agoo, saye
 " that in tyme paste long agoo the highe waye fro my
 " house in Shelton (where the said Thomas now dwelleth)
 " unto the m'ckett and fylds, etc. was throughe the
 " grounde that is now the folde or courte ageanste the
 " gret mansion there; belong' now to ric. Mytton, esquiar,
 " and of him holden by nycolas purcell of Salop, and for
 " further aparens therof the pavement of the said highe
 " waye yet contynueth ov'thwarte the said courte ex-
 " stendyng from my raid house in Shelton towards the
 " highe strete of the said tounne.

" Forther he saythe, that bycause the grounde wherby
 " the said gret oke standeth is moche more nearer waye
 " and handsomr vnto the moost of the said filds of Shel-
 " ton, m'cket, mylle, and moost of oyr convenient palces
 " to resorte to, and for that oon lande of grounde belong-
 " yng to my said house stode right and next to the folde
 " southe eastende of my saide house - - which said lande
 " of grounde did lye and dothe streight upon the said
 " gret oke, &c."

The paper is very long; but enough has been transcribed to prove that the tree was esteemed a *great* one within 140 years of the battle of Shrewsbury, and an object of remark to old people *long before*. But the following passage points so strongly to the time of dividing fields by hedges in this neighbourhood, a subject which has been spoken of above, that it must be laid before the reader.

Mr. Waring says, in brief, that the field adjoining the great oak formerly extended to the yard of Mr. Mytton's great mansion on the north side of it, and then his (W.'s) land whereto the oak adjoins was used by the inhabitants of his house, who for their own ease suffered the highway from his said house to Shelton's street, overthwart the court of Mr. M.'s mansion, to be enclosed; " in consideration wherof the hedge of the
 " said fyld next unto the said gret oke is now sette

" upon the northe or northe northe easte syde of the said
 " gret oke upon my grounde, and the said hedge is mayn-
 " reyned and alwaies hid'to made by the inhabitants tennts
 " of my said house, sens the fyrst setting there of the
 " said hedge, whiche was when the said lande was fyrst
 " sette out for an highe wey wayne waye to the said
 " house," &c.

To the above interesting information from a work which will, no doubt, hereafter be considered a standard History of Shrewsbury, we add the following from an article in the Gentleman's Magazine, vol. 80, page 305, communicated by Mr. D. Parkes, of Shrewsbury.

" Mr. Gough, in his edition of Camden's Britannia, introduces the following notice of Shelton Oak.

" About a mile and a half from Shrewsbury, where the Pool road diverges from that which leads to Oswestry, there stands an ancient decayed oak. There is a tradition, that *Owen Glendwr* ascended this tree to reconnoitre; and finding that the king was in great force, and that the Earl of Northumberland had not joined his son Hot-pur, he fell back to Oswestry, and, immediately after the battle of Shrewsbury, retreated precipitately to Wales. This tree is now in a complete state of decay and hollow, even the larger ramifications. It is visited by many people, from the above tradition."

According to Mr. P's admeasurement, the following are the dimensions of this celebrated tree:

" Girt at bottom, close to the ground, forty-four feet, three inches. Ditto, five feet from the ground, twenty-five feet, one inch. Ditto, eight feet from the ground, twenty-seven feet, four inches. The height of the tree, to near the top, forty-one feet, six inches. Within the hollow of the tree, at the bottom, there is sufficient room for at least, half a dozen to take a snug dinner."

There are various opinions respecting the full age or natural life of trees. Mr. Evelyn, and others, imagine, that from three to four hundred years form the natural life of the oak tree. An oak tree was felled in April, 1791, in the park of Sir John Rushout, Bart. at Northwick, near Blackley, in Worcestershire, judged to be about three hundred years old. It was perfectly sound;

contained 634 cubical feet of timber in the trunk, and the arms were estimated at two hundred feet more. In Mr. Gilpin's work on Forest Scenery, before referred to, there is an account of oak trees in the New Forest which had marks of existing before the Conquest. The tree in the same forest, against which the arrow of Sir Walter Tyrrel glanced, and killed King William Rufus, remains still a tree, though much mutilated. In Mr Robert Lowe's View of the Agriculture of Nottinghamshire, several trees are said to have been lately felled in Sherwood Forest, which were found to have cut into them I. R. or In. R. (*Rex*) and some had a crown over the letters. Mr. M'William, in his Essay on the Dry Rot, goes still farther; he says, that many trees might be mentioned in this and other countries, which bear sufficient testimony of their being far above a thousand years old; and he gives reasons for believing that several trees now exist, more than three thousand years old!

THE YEW TREE.

(*The Same.*)

IN Darley church-yard, near Matlock in Derbyshire, is a yew tree, thirty-three feet in girth.

In the church-yard of Aldworth, in Berkshire, is another, the trunk of which, four feet from the ground, measures nine yards in circumference. It is of considerable height: all recollection of its age is lost.

Nearly equal in size and beauty with the above, is a Yew growing upon the estate of S. A. Severne, Esq. in front of the Farm House, called the Broomhill, in the parish of Westbury, in the county of Salop. One foot above the surface of the earth it girths upwards of eight yards; its branches extend about nine yards in each direction, and its height not less than forty feet. Its age is unknown; but within the memory of the grandfathers of the oldest inhabitants of the neighbourhood, it was considered a remarkable curiosity.

In the church-yard of Goostrey, in the county of Chester, is a remarkably large Yew tree, which, allowing for the slowness of the growth of the Yew, is calcula-

ted to have stood at least a thousand years. Under which tree the following lines, and the others of an *Elegy* of which they form a part, were written in 1821, by C. A. H.

Proud Yew ! whose spreading branches have withstood
A world of winds and many a stormy flood ;
Nurse of the ha zlet, long remembered shade,
Round whose deep roots, are human ashes laid,
To bid thy lasting foliage grow and bloom,
While generations mingle in the tomb.
Thy changeless verdure mocks our mortal fears,
The stubborn grandeur of a thousand years !

THE CHESNUT TREE.

(*The Same.*)

AT Cromwell Park, near Letbury, in Gloucestershire, the seat of Lord Dacre, is a huge chesnut tree, probably as remarkable for antiquity as size ; having been mentioned (according to Sir Richard Atkins) in king John's days, six centuries ago, as the wonder of the neighbourhood, and measuring at present, at the foot, fifty seven feet* in circumference. It is supposed to be at least eight hundred years old.

But the most astonishing Chesnut Tree is that now or lately growing on Mount Etna, in Sicily ; which a celebrated traveller states to be 160 feet in circumference, quite hollow within, which however affects not its verdure : for the chesnut tree, like the willow, depends upon its bark for subsistence, and by age loses its internal part. As the cavity of this enormous mass is very considerable, the people have built a house in it, where they have an oven for drying nuts, almonds,

• The Yorkville Pioneer, gives an account of a Sycamore tree which, for its great size and capacity, far surpasses the Letbury Chesnut, and perhaps even any tree in the United States. It is 72 feet in circumference, and has held within its hollow, which is 18 feet diameter, seven men on horseback. It stands near Howel's Ferry, on the York side Broad River, North Carolina. Tradition reports it gave shelter and afforded protection to many families during the gloomy days of the Revolution.

chestnuts, &c. of which they make conserves. They frequently supply themselves with wood from the tree which encircles their house, so that it seems likely, in a short time, to go to ruin through the ingratitude and thoughtlessness of its inhabitants.

THE JASMINE.

(*The Same.*)

THIS beautiful Shrub is so well known to all our readers as to require no description. It adorns the cottage of the peasant, and gives interest and beauty to the dwelling of the wealthy. Its feeble stem forms a striking contrast to the majestic trunks of the Oak, the Sycamore, or the Chesnut, on which account we have introduced it.

We are told that a Duke of Tuscany was the first possessor of this shrub in Europe, and he was so jealously fearful lest others should enjoy what he alone wished to possess, that strict injunctions were given to his gardener, not to give a slip, not so much as a single flower, to any person. To this command the gardener would have been faithful, had not love wounded him by the sparkling eyes of a fair, but portionless peasant, whose want of a little dowry and his poverty alone kept them from the hymeneal altar. On the birth day of his mistress, he presented her with a nosegay; and to render the bouquet more acceptable, ornamented it with a branch of jasmine. The *povera figlia*, wishing to preserve the bloom of this new flower, put it into fresh earth, and the branch remained green all the year; in the following spring it grew, and was covered with flowers; it flourished and multiplied so much under the fair nymph's cultivation, that she was able to amass a little fortune from the sale of the precious gift which love had made her; when, with a sprig of jasmine in her breast, she bestowed her hand and wealth upon the happy gardener of her heart. And the Tuscan girls to this day, preserve the remembrance of this adventure, by invariably wearing a nosegay of jasmine on their wedding day, and they have a proverb, which says, a young girl worthy of wearing this nosegay is rich enough to make the fortune of a good husband.

PART IV.—CHAP. III.

EUROPEAN BEAUTIES.

*Sublime and interesting Views and Prospects,
Splendid Palaces, Temples, Buildings,
Bridges, &c.*

—“Rocks and Forests, Lakes and Mountains grand,
Mark the true Majesty of Nature's hand.”

SUBLIME VIEWS AND PROSPECTS.

“IF towering eminences, (observes an elegant modern writer) have the power to charm and elevate men, who are pursuing the milder occupations of life, with what rapture do they inspire the hearts of those, long encompassed with danger, who, from the top of high mountains, behold the goal, to which their wishes and exertions have long been anxiously directed! Xenophon affords a fine instance of the power of this union of association and admiration over the mind and heart.—The ten thousand Greeks, after encountering innumerable difficulties and dangers, in the heart of an enemy's country, at length halted at the foot of a high mountain. Arrived at its summit, the sea unexpectedly burst, in all its grandeur, on their astonished sight! The joy was universal; the soldiers could not refrain from tears; they embraced their generals and captains with the most extravagant delight; they appeared already to have reached the places of their nativity; and in imagination again sat beneath the vines, that shaded their paternal dwellings.”

PROSPECTS FROM THE FORCLA.

SWITZERLAND.

(From Dr. Raffles's interesting Tour through France, Savoy, Switzerland, Germany and the Netherlands.)

———"Above me are the Alps,
The Palaces of Nature, whose vast walls
Have pinnacled in clouds their snowy scalps,
And throned Eternity in icy halls
Of cold sublimity. ———
All that expands the Spirit, yet appals,
Gather around these summits, as to shew
How earth may pierce to heaven, yet leave vain man
below."

LORD BYRON.

WE had now (observes Dr. R.) to ascend the Forcla, whose summit rose abruptly from the village of Trient, and which we attained by means of a track cut in a zig-zag direction up its side. Our cavalcade made a very interesting figure, winding up this mountain stair-case. As I brought up the rear, I enjoyed the spectacle, and only required the pen of Walter Scott to depict the groups, as they traversed the mountain in different directions, and rose one above another before me.

We were about seven thousand feet above the level of the sea, and the valley into which we looked, could not be much less than two or three thousand feet deep, yet our path was perfectly undefended, and only wide enough to admit the passage of a single mule. Along this path the Empress Maria Louisa came. The men who conducted us had been her guides on that occasion. They spoke highly of the courage and heroism which she displayed. They said she would not suffer them to hold the rein of her mule, or render her the least assistance, even in the most difficult places. She did not take the route by the *Mauvis pus*, however, but came over the Col de Balme. That path joins the one from Trient nearly at the summit of the Forcla.

From this spot, in an instant the whole of the canton of the Haut Valais, into which we were about to descend, burst upon our view. An extensive and fertile vale was seen far beneath us, stretching its variegated carpet, speckled with villages and farms, and watered

windings of the Rhone, to the bases of majestic
ains, and the beams of the evening sun. The
t summits were covered with snow; the sides of
arer mountains were clothed with fir. Some tra-
esteem this one* of the finest views in Switzer-
rom the vast variety which it embraces, from the
d luxuriant scenery of the valley before, to the
and terrific grandeur of the mountains behind.
scent was long and toilsome—steep and rugged—
is very far from yielding the relief it seemed to
se after the up-hill work of the morning.

re advanced, the country began to assume another
We knew by its appearance that we were re-
g to the haunts of men. Frightful precipices and
s solitudes were exchanged for rich enclosures,
int orchards, and scenes of rural happiness and
beauty.

he higher regions of the Forclà, we were much
l by the appearance of a maniac, who accosted us
passed with great mildness and respect. She was
le, of a pleasing countenance and elegant form.
id wandered from the valleys beneath, and was
d by her son. It seems he was under the neces-
using coercive measures to compel her return,
saw him strike her. It was a horrid sight—and
icks rung in our ears for a considerable distance
he mountain, and have rung in mine frequently

Martigny we entered upon the great road that
over the Simplon into Italy. Buonaparte stayed
ghts at our inn, when he made his celebrated pas-
the Alps—and I slept in the room which he then
ed. The mistress of the inn told us that she
him with his coffee on that occasion. She had a
al to say about him, and we were much interest-
her conversation, particularly as it seemed to
a specimen of the state of feeling in that neigh-
ood,—at least in the circle in which she moved.

or a very interesting description of Alpine scene-
page 164 of this volume.



She did not hesitate to avow a strong attachment to Buonaparte. Her husband had served under him, and fallen in battle; and when we expressed our astonishment, that she should like a man who had been the means of depriving her of her husband, she said with great emphasis, as though that were a sufficient consolation, "Oh! but he died for Buonaparte!" Every thing that Buonaparte had done, seemed to be, in her esteem, great and good—"But was not he a very bad man?" we asked. "He had but one fault," she replied, "he was too ambitious." "But was not he a great tyrant—did he not aim at universal empire—did he not plunder and enslave every other country, to aggrandize and enrich his own?" "Ah! (said she) but ~~we~~ wanted for nothing—we had plenty of employment—we were strangers to poverty." And what the woman said was, so fair, true enough; for, in public works, or in destructive wars, every man of talent and industry was sure to be employed; and you scarcely go a stage, in this part of the country, in which you do not meet with a road or a bridge, or some work of public utility, begun or completed by his orders. She told us she had got his picture, and if we liked she would fetch it. It was accordingly produced, and it proved to be a print of the death of General Duroc, where Buonaparte is represented in the tent of the general, and saying, as he grasps him by the hand, "General, there is another world, and we shall meet again." "Yes," the dying man replies, "there is another world, and we shall meet again, but that will not be for *thirty years to come*—till you have conquered all your foes, and fulfilled the hopes of France."

ROMANTIC VIEWS AND WONDERS OF THE SIMPLON,

THE SAME.

(From *Coxe's Switzerland*.)

IT is quite impossible for language to convey any adequate idea of the wonders of the SIMPLON. To be comprehended it must be seen. It combines throughout the awful and sublime with the picturesque and the beautiful. There is not, perhaps, any place in the world where the astonished traveller will perceive, in such *rapid succession*, the wildest and rudest scenery intermingled with smiling vallies and cultivated fields. This wonderful monument of human labour and ingenuity, which may justly claim the admiration of the world extending from Geneva to Milan, was constructed by order of BUONAPARTE, under the direction of M. CHARD, on whom it confers immortal honour.

In the course of this grand route, more than forty bridges of various forms are thrown from one wild chasm to another—numerous galleries or subterranean passages are not only cut through the solid rock, but through the *solid glaciers** also—those “thrilling regions of thick-ribbed ice”—and if to these we add the aqueducts which have been built,—the grand *canal*, which has been cut—the walls that support and flank the whole of the route—together with the innumerable works of art which must necessarily enter into and form a part of this more than Herculean work—we are at a loss which most to admire, the genius which contrived, or the skill which executed, so stupendous a work. More than 30,000 men were constantly employed in this undertaking, which was finished in 1805, after three years incessant labour.

* It may be proper here once for all to observe, that the *glaciers* are beds of ice, more or less thick, which are lodged upon declivities, between the mountains. These beds, increased from time to time become of a considerable extent and thickness, sometimes to the depth of 3 or 400 feet.

The road is now wide enough to admit three carriages abreast, but until the year 1801, it was impassable.

At *Viege*, situated at the entrance of the vallies of *Sass* and *St. Nicholas*, are two churches of singular architecture. Quitting this place, we cross much marshy meadow land, and at length the town of *Brigg*, with its towers, appears in the midst of meadows, woods, and groves. On the left is the pretty village of *Naters*; the Rhone, by which it is washed, descends from the summits of the *Fourche*, and the sombre vallies of the *Axe*. On the right is one of the first labours of the *Simplon*, the bridge over the *Saltine*; the road which rises gradually is cut through the dark forests of fir. From *Glyss* to *Domo d'Ossola*, a distance which is passed in fourteen or fifteen hours, there are *twenty-two bridges*, and *seven galleries* cut out of the rock. In the chapel of the church at *Glyss* is a picture of *George de Supersax* and his wife, with her twelve sons and eleven daughters.

We now begin to ascend the *Simplon*, and the first remarkable work is the bridge just mentioned, of a single arch, made of the wood of the larch (*pinus larix*) which is more durable than fir; it is covered to preserve the timber work from the rain. As we continue to ascend, there is a chapel on our left placed on the side of a mountain, and many little oratories built on the road which leads to it. We now begin to take leave of the world, its palaces, theatres, and buildings, and to see in their place mountains, rocks, and trees: in the contemplation of Nature's most grand and awful works, the mind is as it were lifted from earth to heaven, or as *Petrarch* has most beautifully expressed the same idea:—

Qui non palazzi non teatro o loggia,
Ma'n loro vece un' abete, un faggio, un pino
Tra l'erba verde e'l bel monte vicino
Levan di terra al ciel nostr' intelletto.

To preserve the gradual inclination of the road, the constructors of this work were compelled to follow all the sinuosities of the mountain, and hence the bridge of *Ganter* is found in the bottom of a valley. A few paces before we arrive at this bridge, we pass the first

gallery; it is one of the least, and is cut in a part of the mountain, where fragments of rock are held together by a clayey earth, which after much rain becomes slippery, and large stones fall down, and render the passage dangerous. It seems as if this road were constructed to brave the fury of the tempests, and resist the influence of time; it passes from one mountain to another, dives under rocks, fills up precipices, forms the most elegant windings, and conducts the traveller by a gentle ascent to the glaciers, and above the clouds. Well may we exclaim with Mr. Pope, while we tread these regions, that we

Mount o'er the vales, and seem to tread the sky
 Th' eternal snows appear already past,
 And the first clouds and mountains seem the last.
 But those attained, we tremble to survey
 The growing labours of the lengthened way,
 Th' increasing prospect tires our wand'ring eyes,
 Hills peep o'er hills, and Alps on Alps arise.

The *gallery of Schalbet*, which follows that of Ganter, is more than 100 feet long, and is remarkable for its situation: on one side of it is seen the road which we are going to pass, a small part of the valley of the Rhone, and the glaciers of Switzerland; at the other end of the gallery, we follow the road to the summit of the Simplon, which commands the Rosboden, and the Southern chain of the Alps. Below the Schalbet are the two houses called *Tavernettes*, where travellers who keep the old road stop for refreshment.

We now arrive at a height where the trees are small, languish, and finally cease to vegetate; but their place is supplied by the *Rhododendron*, which braves the severest cold, and is found close to the ice; its wood affords firing to those who are at a distance from forests, and the beauty of its flower, called the rose of the Alps, refreshes the eye which has been so long used to contemplate the monotony of glaciers and sterile rocks.

That part of the road between the gallery of Schalbet and the glacier gallery is exposed to violent gusts of wind; and the galleries are often blocked up with snow: but the passage is seldom entirely closed. Labourers are continually employed to remove every obstacle.

The *glacier gallery* is situated at a little distance from the most elevated point in this route, where the convent and inn (*hospice*) is placed; it is three stories high, and is inhabited by fifteen persons. Here, as at St. Bernard, and St. Gothard, all travellers are entertained *gratis*; but those who can afford it are expected to make some trifling present to the convent.

It is in this spot that the old road joins the new one, and five or six miles may be saved by following the latter on mules. This gallery, 130 feet in length, is cut through the *solid ice*, and although the most beautiful appearances are represented at every step, the cold is so intense in the middle of summer, as to prevent the traveller from examining them.

After two hours descent from the summit of the mountain, we arrive at the *village of Simplon*. It is surrounded by huge barren rocks, which are covered for many months in the year with snow, and is 4448 feet above the level of the sea, in a dismal valley, near a foaming torrent bordered with larch trees; the houses, which are roughly built of stone, are covered with the lichen, which gives them a yellow cast. The inhabitants are clothed with sheep-skins in the midst of summer, when they drive their flocks into the vallies, and make their cheese, almost the only repast of these humble mountaineers. To them may be applied, with the greatest propriety, the well known, but beautiful lines of one of the sweetest of our poets:—

Dear is that shed to which his soul conforms,
And dear that hill, which lifts him to the storms:
And as a child when scaring sounds molest,
Clings close and closer to the mother's breast;
So the loud torrent, and the whirlwind's roar,
But bind him to his native mountain more.

A little distance from Simplon the road turns upon itself, and leads us to the *gallery of Algbay*, about 200 feet in length on our right; the torrent of the *Doveria* (called by the Germans *Krumbach*) traversing a thousand rocky fragments, rolls into the bottom of the valley, with a tremendous noise, and the trees and the cottages now entirely disappear. Near the gallery is a building designed to shelter the traveller from the passing storm,

d for the residence of labourers who keep the road clear from obstructions: carriages also may be put up in the court yard. There are three buildings of this kind on the road to Italy. Those who live at Algböy are deprived of the sun for many months in the year, consequence of the height of the neighbouring mountains. Farther on, the mountains approach so close, that before the road was completed, a rock fell on its pristine height, and still remains suspended over the traveller.

We next arrived at the *grand gallery at Gondo* the most astonishing of all the works of the Simplon. It is *six hundred and eighty-three feet in length* and cut through it in the *solid granite*: two large openings scarcely admit the light of the day; and the noise of the horses' feet, and the wheels of the carriages, mingled with the ringing of the *Doveria*, resound through its vaults. Emerging from this cavern a bridge is seen thrown over the torrent. Art and nature, indeed, seem to have combined in this place every thing which is calculated to strike the imagination. On the side of the granite rock, which we have just passed through, the *Doveria*, bubbles over enormous blocks of stone, and "boils into the gulph below." The blasting of this rock consumed an immense quantity of powder, and the gallery was the result of eighteen months constant labour both day and night. In this place some inscription might naturally be expected—either the name of the principal artist, or of the emperor of that country which sanctioned and encouraged this noble monument of human labour—this glorious wonder of the world. The only inscription

† The Pyramids of Egypt, the Colossus of Rhodes, the temple of Diana at Ephesus, the Walls of Babylon, the hanging Gardens of Babylon, the Tomb of Mausoleus, and the Pharos of Alexandria, are generally termed the seven Wonders of the World. The number Seven in almost every country is a peculiar number, and Seven wonders are to be met with in modern as well as ancient times. The Principality of Wales claims her

which meets the eye is on *the side of the gallery*, in *two words*.

Æ R E I T A L O

M D C C C V

Once more we behold the habitations of man; and a few straggling houses and a chapel constitute the dull and gloomy village of *Gondo*. One of these is an *inn* belonging to the barons of Stokalper, remarkable for its strange architecture; its eight stories, its little grated windows, and its gloomy situation give it more the air of a prison than the dwelling of a freeman. It is however in unison with the scenery of these stupendous heights, from which the thunder of the rushing tide is often heard with terror and amazement†.

The village of Gondo belongs to the *Valais*, notwithstanding which Italian is spoken; about a mile farther is the village of *Isella*, the frontier of the kingdom of Italy.

Isella is equally miserable with Gondo, and nothing is seen which announces the flourishing country we are now entering. The appearance of the country is still

complement, viz: Wrexham Church Steeple, Gresford Church Bells, St. Winefred's Well, Devil's Bridge. Bala Pool, Snowdon Mountain, and the Vale of Clwyd. While Salopia, not to be behind hand with her neighbour Cambria, calls upon the World to admire her Wrekin Hill. Hawkestone Park, Shrewsbury Quarry, the Bituminous Well at Pitchford, the Ironbridge at Coalbrookdale, Leaning Tower of Bridgnorth Castle, and her recently erected Splendid Column in honour of Lord Hill. Ed.

† In the summer of 1799, the Simplon was successively occupied by the French and Austrians, who disputed the passage with each other.

d, and now and then, are observed numerous huts constructed for the labourers which now serve to shelter herds and their flocks in the summer. In this part of the route, the road is a causeway made of stones not cemented together, and which suffer the water from the mountains to pass through their crevices. Many bridges are still seen, but that made entirely of stone at the entrance of the valley, which leads to *Cherasqua*, is remarkable for its elegant simplicity. At a little distance from *Isella*, the rocks become more dispersed, and form sort of amphitheatre:—the village of *Doveredo* now seems embosomed in chesnut trees. Here every where seems a mass of verdure, the vines being carried to the roofs. The waters of the *Doveria* are again heard to roar. The next object worthy of notice is a *fig* remarkable for the convexity of its arch, placed in the ruins of another, whose broken fragments and masonry are discovered in the middle of the river. Another gallery is passed—the rocks recede still further, the fertile plain of *Domo* appears, and the magnificent bridge of *Crevola*, thrown from one mountain to another crosses the valley. It is formed of two wooden arches supported by a pillar of great strength and beauty. *This is the last of the works of the Simplon.*

And, here, we necessarily close our description of the passage of the Simplon, not without some fear of having passed on the patience of our readers. Of such a work, however, it was impossible to speak, but in all;—and we trust that the artist, the man of taste, the engineer, and the general traveller, will all find amusement in our account of the Simplon. If the author has failed to communicate a just idea of this mortal undertaking—to describe what no pen nor pencil can delineate, he has at least furnished those who pass this route with a *map*, on which may be seen (where all is wonder) the most remarkable and striking parts of this grand and astonishing work.

VIEW FROM SNOWDON MOUNTAIN.

NORTH WALES.

(Bucke's Harmonies of Nature.)

AFTER climbing over masses of crags and rocks, we ascended the peak of Snowdon, the height of which is 3571 feet above the level of the Irish sea. Arrived at its summit, a scene presents itself magnificent beyond the powers of language! Indeed language is indignant and impotent, when it would presume to sketch scenes, on which the Great Eternal has placed his matchless finger with delight. Faint are thy broad and deep delineations, immortal Salvator Rom! Powerless and feeble are your inspirations, genius of Thomson, Virgil, and Lucretius!

From this point are seen more than five and twenty lakes. Seated on one of the crags, it was long before the eye, unaccustomed to measure such elevations, could accommodate itself to scenes so admirable:—the whole appearing as if there had been a war of the elements; and as if we were the only inhabitants of the globe, permitted to contemplate the ruins of the world. Rocks and mountains, which, when observed from below, bear all the evidences of sublimity, when viewed from the summit of Snowdon, are blended with others as dark, as rugged, and as elevated as themselves; the whole resembling the swellings of an agitated ocean.

The extent of this prospect appears almost unlimited. The four kingdoms are seen at once; * Wales, England,

* The most extensive view the Editor of this Work ever enjoyed, was from the summit of Snaefell, Isle of Man, which is considered the exact centre of the British Isles. From the top of this mountain, though only rising 1500 feet above the level of the sea, we may distinctly recognize the Arklow Mountains, the high point of land on this side of the Bay of Carlingford, and the Hills behind Strangford, in Ireland. The Snowdon and Great Ormshead, in Wales. The coast of Cumberland and Lancashire, in England. All the land between Dumfries and Port Patrick, in Scotland—While the Isle of Man appears spread like a Map beneath our feet.

Scotland, and Ireland! forming the finest panorama the empire can boast. The circle begins with the mountains of Cumberland and Westmoreland; those of Ingleborough and Penvgent, in the County of York, and the hills of Lancashire follow; then are observed the counties of Chester, Flint, and Denbigh and a portion of Montgomeryshire.—Nearly the whole of Merioneth succeeds; and, drawing a line with the eye along the diameter of the circle, we take in those regions, stretching from the triple-crown of Cader Idris to the sterile crags of Carnedds David and Llewellyn.—Snowdon, rising in the centre, appears, as if he could touch the south with his right hand, and the north with his left.—“Surely,” thought Collonna, “Cæsar sat upon these crags, when he formed the daring conception of governing the world!” At this moment, how contemptible, beyond the powers of language to express, appeared the vanity and folly of Xerxes, when he formed the resolution of cutting through a mountain, which casts its shadow more than eighty miles:—“Athos,” said the monarch, “Athos, thou proud and aspiring mountain, that lif’st thy head unto the heavens, I advise thee not to be so audacious, as to put rocks and stones, which cannot be cut, in the way of my workmen. If thou givest them that opposition, I will cut thee entirely down, and throw thee headlong into the sea.”

From Cader Idris, the eye, pursuing the orbit of the bold geographical outline, glances over the bay of Cardigan, and reposes for a while on the summit of the Rivel. After observing the indented shores of Carnarvonshire, it travels over a long line of ocean, till in the extremity of the horizon, the blue mountains of Wicklow terminate the perspective. Those mountains gradually sink along the coast, till they are lost to the eye; which, ranging along the expanse, at length, as weary of the journey, repose on the Island of Man and the distant mountains of Scotland. The intermediate space is occupied by the sides and summits of mountains, hollow crags, masses of rocks, the towers of Carnarvon, the fields of Anglesea, with woods, lakes, and glens, scattered in magnificent confusion. A scene like this commands our feelings to echo, as it were, in unison to its grandeur

and sublimity: the thrill of astonishment and the transport of admiration seem to contraind for the mystery—and nerves are touched that never thrilled before! We seem as if our former existence were annihilated; and as if a new epoch were commenced. Another world opens upon us; and an unlimited orbit appears to display itself, as a theatre for our ambition.

In viewing scenes so decided:ly magnificent, to which neither the pen of the poet, nor the pencil of the painter, can ever promise justice; and the contemplation of which has the power of making ample atonement for having studied mankind, the soul expanding and sublimed, quickens with a spirit of divinity, and appears, as it were, associated with the Deity himself. For, in the same manner as a shepherd feels himself ennobled, while sitting with his prince; so, and in a far more unlimited degree, the beholder feels himself advanced to a higher scale in the creation, in being permitted to see and to admire the grandest of the works of nature. Few ever mounted this towering eminence, but, for a time, they became wiser and better.—Here the proud may learn humility; the unfortunate acquire confidence; and the man, who climbs Snowdon as an atheist, feels, as it were, ere he descends, an ardent desire to fall down and worship his Creator!

Before our guide could induce us to leave this spot, the clouds formed round us; and at the moment, in which we passed the Red Ridge, a peal of thunder murmured among the mountains. He, who has passed this tremendous rampire, will conceive the effect of the explosion, and the danger of our situation. The Red Ridge is a long, narrow pass, elevated above two thousand feet above the vale: the top of it, in some places, is not more than twelve feet across; and by a slight inclination of the eye, a rock valley is seen on one side, as deep, and nearly as perpendicular, as the one on the other. The lightning now flashed over our heads; and the thunder, as we might have expected from the intensity of the day, rolled in sonorous volumes round us.—If the prospect from the summit of Snowdon had been the finest, we had ever seen; so were these the most tremendous sounds that we had ever heard.

PROSPECT FROM THE WREKIN,

SHROPSHIRE.

THE Editor had himself prepared a description of the View from the summit of this popular Mountain, when his attention was directed to an excellent article in the Select Magazine, published by Mr. Houlston, of Wellington; communicated, we understand, by the Rev J. M. Butt, under the signature of *Salopiensis*.

"Where famed Salopia spreads her verdant plain,
And fair Sabrina decks the rich champaign,
The lonely Wrekin high exalted stands,
And arching wide the vast expanse commands."

"The Wrekin is a solitary hill, rising suddenly from a vast plain to the height of one quarter of a mile above the sea, and 1200 feet above the river Severn at its foot; situated in the central part of Shropshire, which seems spread like a map below it.

The Views from the summit of the Wrekin are, in several directions, very beautiful and grand. The south west declivity, in particular, is awfully precipitous; and the summit of the rock commands a most romantic view of the windings of the Severn under the woods of Buildwas; beyond which, between the Clec hills on the left, and Church-Stretton hills on the right, extends the Vale of Corve, and a multiplicity of wild woods and hills in the direction of Ludlow. The prospect of North Wales also to about the Brithen Hills is very magnificent.

But striking as these particular views are, they do not constitute the distinguishing character of the Wrekin. It is the extent and majesty of its horizon which stands unrivalled in England. The bold arch of the mountain, suddenly rising from a most extensive plain, forms a small central pinnacle, which may properly be called the key stone of the arch. From this point the whole horizon is seen.

The cause of its extraordinary extent and grandeur is, that the circumjacent plain is seldom interrupted by any lofty boundaries, till it naturally sinks from the eye, and is then succeeded by eminences so happily situated as greatly to extend the prospect, and form a diversified and magnificent outline.

The atmosphere indeed seldom exhibits the whole horizon at once, unless it be at sun-rise in fine summer weather. It is not, if we are favoured with an opening either to the Peak of Derio shire, or to Snowdon or North Wales; but it is folly to ascend the Wrekin, unless the atmosphere be remarkably clear, and some distant eminences be distinctly visible from the plain.

The circuit of the horizon, it is conjectured, may be from 350 to 400 miles, embracing the following objects.

N. B. Conjectural Statements are noted by †; Inferior Objects, by &c. Objects not ascertained, by N. A.

SOUTH-WEST by WEST to WEST.	Counties	Dist.	Height
1. The Caerdoc, the nearest boundary of the horizon	Shrop.	13	—
2. The Long-Mynd	Shrop.	17	1674
3. Mandinam Mountains above the Long-Mynd	Montg.	43	1808
4. Superstanes	Shrop.	18	1800†
5. Corndon Hill, a round summit above the west end of Superstanes	Shrop.	22	—
6. Plinlimmon, &c. between the Superstanes and Long Mountain	Cardig.	54	2973
7. The Long Mountain	Montg.	22	1370
8. Cader Idris, over the west of the Long Mountain, with another mountain to the left, N. A.	Merion.	60	3916
WEST TO NORTH.			
9. Lower Ridge, probably the Camlin & Moel Dyf, near Mullwyd	Merion.	50†	—
10. The Bithen, distant 21 miles, in height 1200 feet overtopped by Arran Fowddy	Merion.	50	3935
11. Chain of mountains, proceeding as from Arran Fowddy; among which is, probably, Arran Ben Lllyn, and part of the Berwyn chain to the right, and the Arrenig beyond			
12. Cader Ferwyn, summit of the Berwyn range, overtopped to the right also by mountain N. A. in the line of the Snowdon range	Denb.	78	2563
13. Castle Dinas Bran, above the right declivity of the Berwyn	Denb.	83	1897
14. Runbon	Denb.	30	—

	Counties	Dist.	Height
15. The Cluidian range, of which the high st. Moel Vamua, bears the Jubilee Column	Flint.	40?	—
16. The Hope Mountain	Flint	5?	—
17. High land, ascertained beyond Parkgate	Chesh.	50	—
18. Ditto, ascertained beyond the Mersey and Prescott	Lanc.	50?	—
19. Perforon Hills and Beeston Castle, &c. above Hawkstone .	Chesh.	30?	—
20. Delamere Forest, a small eminence	Chesh.	40	506
NORTH TO EAST.			
21. A very extensive plain . . .	Chesh.	50?	—
22. High ground, partly overtopped, perhaps by the Cloud Mountain, near Congleton . .	Chesh.	40?	1300?
23. Ashley Heath, over Wellington	Staff.	20	803
24. Moel-Cop	Staff.	35	1091
25. The Range of the Peak, in which have been ascertained Coombe-Moss, near Buxton, and Axe-Edge, which is in	Derb.	60?	1751
26. Weaver Hills	Staff.	40	1151
27. Atlow Wyu, near Ashborn . .	Derb.	50?	—
28. Lower eminences, extending as far as the direction of Abbots-Bromley and Nottingham, a little to the right of that of Stafford and Derby, N. A. .	Derb.	50?	—
29. Cannock Chase	Staff.	25	715
EAST TO SOUTH.			
30. High ground in continuation from Cannock, part of which is Bar Beacon	Staff.	20	653
31. Corley & Meriden hills, above Wolverhampton	War.	45	521
Other distant hills, perhaps in Northamptonshire, in the same direction			
32. Sedgley	Staff.	31	800
33. Rowley, in part concealed by Sedgley	Staff.	26	900
34. Edge Hill	War.	60	900?
35. Hill about Banbury, in the same direction			
36. Clent Hill and Brom-grove Lickey, in part behind, due south-east	Oxf.	65	800?
	Worc.	26	950

	Counties	Dist.	Height
37. Broadway Hill, &c. above Apley Terrace and Envil	Gloc.	54	1098
38. Cleve Hill	Gloc.	56	1124
39. Brydon Hill, intercepting the Cotswold Range, nearly over Colebrookdale and Bridgnorth	Worc.	50	1000 ?
40. Lackington Hills, &c. in the same range	Gloc.	60 ?	1160 ?
41. Abberley and Woodbury Hills, &c.	Worc.	57	800 ?
42. Malvern Hills	Worc. Heref.	40	1444
43. High ridge on the further side of the River Temse	Worc.	97	700 ?
SOUTH to SOUTH-WEST by WEST			
44. The Titterstone Clee	Shrop.	19	1800 ?
45. The Brown Clee	Shrop.	15	18-5
46. The Sugar Loaf	Monm.	25	1252
47. The Cradle Mountain, perhaps the same with the Malteral Hills	Brec.	55	2543
48. A long and more distant ridge.	Brec.	60 ?	—
49. Hills beyond Ludlow, &c. . .	Shrop.	25 ?	—
50. The Two Beacons of Brecknock, the higher	Brec.	66	2862
51. Radnor Forest ?	Radn.	40	2163
52. Church-Stretton Hill	Shrop.	15	1200 ?
53. Radnor Forest continued to the Caerdoc ?			

SPLENDID PALACES.

PALACE OF THE MOORISH KINGS.

SPAIN.

(From Jacob's South of Spain.)

I HAVE several times (says Mr. J.) visited the Alhambra, the ancient Palace of the Moorish Kings: it is situated on the top of a hill overlooking the city, and is surrounded with a wall of great height and thickness.—The road to it is by a winding path through a wood of lofty elms, mixed with poplars and oleanders; and some orange and lemon trees. By the side of the road, or

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rather path (for it is not designed for wheel-carriages) are beautiful marble fountains, from which transparent streams are constantly rushing down. The entrance is through an archway, over which is carved a key, the symbol of the Mahomedan monarchs. This gate, called the Gate of Judgment, according to Eastern forms, was the place where the kings administered justice. The horseshoe arches are supported by marble pillars, ornamented, in the Arabian style, with bandeaus and inscriptions, one of which, in the ancient Cufic character, has been translated by some of the literati, "Praise be to God, there is no God but one, and Mahomed is his prophet; and there is no power but from God."

After leaving the Gate of Judgment, we passed through another, which is now converted into a chapel, and with much fatigue arrived at the Plaza de los Aljibes, or the square of the cisterns under which water is brought from another hill at the distance of a league: these reservoirs are so large, and contain so much of that necessary article, that they provided an ample supply for all the numerous inhabitants who formerly dwelt in the Alhambra. From this prospect the surrounding country was very fine and the majestic Sierra Nevada seemed impending over us.

The number of apartments in this palace of enchantment is very considerable, and I should be fearful of fatiguing you if I attempted to describe them. The character of the whole is so remote from all the objects to which we are accustomed, that the impressions of wonder and delight which it has excited, will afford me the most pleasing recollections during the remainder of my life. This noble palace, however, is hastening to decay, and, without repairs, to which the finances of Spain are inadequate, it will in a few years be a pile of ruins; its voluptuous apartments; its stately columns, and its lofty walls, will be mingled together, and no memorial be left in Spain of a people who once governed the Peninsula.

ROYAL PALACE OF VERSAILLES.

FRANCE.

(From Hall's Travels in France.)

THE Palace of Versailles, if bulk be substituted for beauty, must be admitted as the most handsome of palaces. The apartments are reckoned at 6000, Mr. Hall does not consider the calculation as improbable, considering the extent of ground covered. A stranger is led through hall and chamber, cabinet, stove room, in seemingly endless succession. All gilding and glare, and Buonaparte in his hour of splendour expended millions in renovating this frippery. In the park of this palace stands Le Grand Trianon. Its facade consists of a single story 380 feet in length, terminated by two pavilions; these are connected by a range of twenty-two Ionic columns, the whole surmounted by a balustrade and vases. The apartments are furnished in better taste than those of the place. Of the gardens belonging to Versailles, notwithstanding their celebrity, our author speaks in terms of utter contempt.

The stranger, says he, passively follows his conductor from one green pond to another, from a piece of shell work to a noiseless fountain, and thence to a cascade. The only object which attracted his regard was the orange tree planted by Francis I. in 1421, which is in full health and bearing. After this the most interesting thing at Versailles, in his opinion, is a speedy departure from it; with the hope that the task of visiting it may never be again imposed.

PALACES & PUBLIC BUILDINGS OF VIENNA.

AUSTRIA.

(From the Edinburgh Gazetteer.)

THE Imperial Palace is situated at the western extremity of the city, close by the ramparts. Its square edifice of vast extent; but having been built at very different periods, the appearance of the exterior is very irregular, and resembles a Palace in little of its mass. The interior is, however, highly interest-

account of the valuable collections which it contains. The Riding Academy of Vienna is said to be one of the greatest in Europe; but it is surpassed by an Assembly room, called the Hall of Apollo, which is said to be capable of containing 10,000 people. The Belvidere, a palace built by Prince Eugene, is in one of the suburbs; it stands partly on the top, partly at the foot of an eminence, and commands an extensive prospect. The Imperial Mews are capable of containing more than 400 horses. The Arsenal contains an immense collection of Arms, and many curious Ornaments, all of iron. All these Edifices belong either to government or the Imperial Family.

THE HERMITAGE,

RUSSIA.

(From Sir John Carr's *Russia*.)

THE Hermitage is not the matted cell of an anchorite, but a magnificent modern Palace, built by the late Empress, and connected, by a light, elegant gallery, with an enormous mass of building, called the Winter Palace, built of brick stuccoed, and consisting of a basement floor, a grand and lesser story, supported with Ionic columns, and adorned with balustrades, and an immense number of statues, many of which are said to be excellent, but as they are associated with the chimæras, their beauties are not discernible to gazers on the ground. This pile was built by the Empress Elizabeth, grand from its magnitude, but very heavy: within its walls are many courts, galleries, and passages and staircases without number. In the winter it requires fifteen hundred stoves, or as the Russians call them, *itchkas*, and the resident English, peeches, to warm it.

What could induce Catharine to call one of the most stately and elegant Palaces in Europe by the name of the hermitage, I cannot imagine; not more preposterous could it be to hear Windsor Castle denominated the Nutshell. Its situation on the banks of the Neva is very beautiful; the apartments are magnificent, although much of their rich furniture has been removed, and are embellished with the Houghton and other choice Col-

lections, to which artists have free access to copy. One room was entirely filled with some of the finest productions of Vernet; there is also a great number by Teniers. Upon the same floor with the picture galleries, which, with the state rooms, occupy the second story, is a spacious covered winter garden, filled with orange trees, and foreign singing birds, opening into a summer garden upon the top of the palace, in which there is a beautiful long gravelled walk, lined with shrubs and large graceful birch trees, whose roots I should think must have for some time threatened to make their way through the ceiling of the drawing rooms below. The whole is adorned with statues, elegant garden sofas, and temples, and on each side are magnificent galleries. In the cabinet of curiosities I was much pleased with a faithful and exquisite model of a Russian boor's farm-house in wax. In the music room adjoining to this are some large and admirable pictures, by Sneyder, representing fish, fowl and fruit. In the cabinet of jewels there is a rich display of all sorts of jewellery; and amongst others under a great glass case, are the celebrated mechanical peacock, owl, cock, and grasshopper, of the size of life, which were made in England at a vast expence, and presented by Potemkin to the late Empress. The machinery is damaged: the cock, mounted on a tree of gold, no longer crows, nor hoots the owl, nor does the peacock spread his tail, at the expiration of an hour, but the grasshopper still skips round to denote the moments. This animal is nearly the size of his more animated brethren in Russian Finland, which are said to be an inch and a half long. There are also several ivory cups, the fruits of the ingenuity of Peter the Great, whose versatility was such, that apparently with equal ease, he could bend from the founding of cities, leading armies into the field, and fighting battles, to building boats, turning wooden spoons and platters, and carving in ivory. Raphael's hall, one of the galleries running parallel with the garden, is superbly painted and decorated, and has a fine collection of minerals: its inlaid floor is uncommonly rich and exquisite.

BRITISH PALACES, &c.

WINDSOR CASTLE AND CHAPEL.

(Brewer's Picture of England.)

Here hills and vales, the woodland and the plain,
 Here earth and water seem to strive again;
 Not chaos-like, together crush'd and bruise'd,
 But, as the world, harmoniously confus'd.

POPE'S WINDSOR FOREST.

THIS august pile is seated on a lofty eminence, which commands very extensive prospects, and directly overhangs the beautiful flow of the river Thames.

The interior of the palace is divided into two courts, separated by a round tower, termed the *Keep*, which is built on an artificial mount of considerable height. This is one of the most ancient parts of the Castle that retain, in a marked degree, their outward form, and appears to have been rebuilt by Edward the Third, in imitation of a former keep, or tower, erected on this site by William the Conqueror. All other important parts of the edifice, with the exception of St. George's Chapel, have experienced so much alteration in late ages, that it is difficult to distinguish the performance of the ancient architect from that of the innovator. The works executed by command of his present Majesty are, undoubtedly, real improvements, particularly in regard to interior accommodation, according to the more refined notions of modern times.

Amongst those objects of popular attraction which are open to the inspection of the public, may be mentioned the extensive collection of arms preserved in the guard chamber of the Round Tower. But these are little calculated for instructive investigation; and, perhaps, are not capable of affording any great amusement, unless we believe, as is usually asserted, that two coats of mail, here shewn, were really worn by John, King of France, and David, King of Scotland, when prisoners in the Castle; a time of humiliation, in which, as some persons may think, those princes had no inclination to display armour.

The royal apartments are truly worthy of close examination, as they contain an assemblage of paintings not unworthy of a situation even in a regal palace.

After quitting this scene of rational delight, our attention is forcibly directed to the *Chapel of St. George*, one of the finest structures in the decorated style of pointed architecture which the kingdom affords. The greater part of this building was erected in the time of Edward the Fourth, but has been partially altered in succeeding ages. For its present state of excellent repair, and for many of its embellishments, it is indebted to the reigning sovereign, who has expended on those objects nearly £20,000. Both on the exterior and the inside, we here view a gorgeous abundance of architectural ornaments, the whole being disposed with an eminent elegance of design. In this edifice the knights of the order of the Garter are installed; the choir being the part appropriated to that ceremony. On each side of that division of the building are ranged the stalls of the sovereign and companions of this most honourable order of knighthood. The altar is embellished with a fine painting by West, and several windows of this superb fabric are filled with painted glass, executed after designs by the same artist.

As the visitor treads over the "long-drawn aisles" of St. George's Chapel, he will feel a thrill of historic interest, on recollecting that many royal and noble personages, whom he has hitherto contemplated at an indistinct distance, as pageants in the detail of national story, lie enshrouded beneath his feet! Here lies King Edward the Fourth, all his gaiety extinct; and here the sorrows of the sixth Henry find repose. Henry the Eighth; his queen, Jane Seymour; and Charles the First, likewise meet beneath the pavement of this Chapel, in awful tranquillity. Many names of high interest may be readily passed over, while we hasten to observe, that within the walls of this building are enclosed the mortal remains of the excellent Princess Charlotte.

Few parts of the castle are capable of gratifying the examiner, after he quits this solemn pile. Natural scenery accords better with the serious cast of his feel-

ings ; and the Forest of Windsor presents a rich variety of undulations and recesses, clothed with venerable trees, which may have afforded shade to the earliest Henries and Edwards of history.

THE PAVILION, BRIGHTON.

(From Dr. Stringer's Manuscript.)

THE Pavilion, the favourite summer residence of his present Majesty, is near the north-west corner of the Steyne, and was erected in 1784. A handsome front extends two hundred feet, in the centre of which is a circular building, with a lofty dome raised on pillars. After the building was completed so far, two wings were added to the fabric, in order to complete its proportions, and some time since the family mansion of the Duke of Marlborough, called Marlborough House, has been made to unite with the north wing, which further increases its accommodations. The interior is fitted up in a truly magnificent style ; the furniture is in the Chinese fashion, uncommonly splendid ; perhaps not exceeded in Europe. In short, this Palace is almost continually under a state of alteration, and additions, on the most expensive scale. The accompaniments of gravel walks, grass plats, and an attempt at plantations towards the Steyne (for trees can scarcely be made to grow here) are intended to make a finished appearance to the whole. Toward the west, the front forms a square, with a colonnade in the centre, supported by columns, looking over a green, formerly the road.

The spot of ground, formerly known by the name of the Promenade Grove, is laid out in a garden and pleasure ground ; and on the north side there has been a superb building, in the centre of which is a lofty dome in the moresque style, fitted up in the most costly manner as stables with rooms over them.

On the east side is a racket court, on the west a riding-house ; and on the north are coach-houses and stables, elegantly finished, chiefly in the Chinese manner.

SELECT BEAUTIES, &c. OF WILTSHIRE.

*(Communicated to the Editor by Mr. J. F. Hulbert,
vide page 92)*

MY DEAR FRIEND,

TO fulfil the promise alluded to in my former letter, I now submit to your notice the following observations; containing a brief description of a few of the Beauties, &c. of Wiltshire.

SECTION IV.

In commencing this part of my subject, which may naturally be expected to contain some detail of the present state of the objects upon which it treats; there seems to be an intermediate link, between the preceding part of my observations and the leading features of those about to engage my attention.

The circumstance to which this remark more particularly alludes, is the consideration of a few of those stately remains of the architecture of the middle ages of English history, as evidenced in some of the monastic establishments and Ecclesiastical structures which adorn this county in common with many other parts of the Island, particularly

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL.

The beauty of this magnificent structure is of so conspicuous a character, that the person who beholds it for the first time is struck with astonishment, and cannot fail of admiring the skill of the architect who designed, and of the artizan who contributed to embellish such a noble specimen of the sublimity of art: but when a minutest investigation has been made, the harmony of proportion and embellishments of its several parts, with the richness of its sculptural decorations, arrest the attention, and awaken a pleasurable feeling of gratification at beholding so admirable a proof of skill afforded by those whose remains have long been mouldered into dust, and whose names the historic page scarcely records.

The exterior is peculiarly commanding, and presents an example of one of the most uniform buildings of this

description in England. To the architect, the artist, and the admirer of the works of human skill, it is alike characteristically beautiful and worthy of attention. Its highly decorated tower, and lofty spire, rising to the elevation of upwards of 400 feet; the body of the church, and more especially its western front ornamented with buttresses, niches, statues, compartments of windows, arches, pinnacles, &c. together with the cloister, and chapter house, severally present so many points of attractions, that the eye of the beholder passes from one to the other, unwearied and alike gratified with the inspection of every part. The interior also presents a rich assemblage of ornamental decoration,—the lofty and elegant pillars and clusters of pilasters supporting the roof, the beautiful windows with painted glass, the screens, monuments, and various other objects presenting a vast display of embellishment and sculptural effect, pleasing if severally detached, but as existing in combination increasing the feeling of delight in a ratio corresponding to the harmony and splendour of the whole.

MALMSBURY ABBEY.

The remains of this venerable structure, which through the interest and opulence of a private individual, (a Mr. Stumpe, at whose table Henry the 8th with his retinue of courtiers and servants were entertained, according to a statement given by Fuller in his "Worthies of England," page 859,) escaped a total demolition at the suppression of Monastic Establishments in this country: and since that period appropriated to divine service, as a parish church. The accounts which are given, by ancient authors, respecting its former state, agree in ranking the monastery, of which the Abbey constituted a part, as being exceeded by none in the West of England for extent and magnificence, excepting that so celebrated at Glastonbury. Situated on an eminence, it must have possessed a splendid character, when its buildings occupied forty-five acres of ground; and its lofty tower and steeple ascending to the height of upwards of four hundred and thirty feet, were conspicuous to a wide extent of surrounding country.

this enchanting spot, and during the few hours of being there, was passing from one scene to another in quick succession. The architectural beauty and splendour of the mansion, resembling an ancient monastic edifice and denominated the abbey ; its lofty tower, turrets, pinnacles, and pediments, gave to its exterior a magnificent appearance :—but in the interior, the splendour of the various apartments richly embellished with sculpture, and decorated with all the grandeur of art, so as to rival the gorgeous abodes of luxurious eastern potentates ; (the effect of which was heightened by the beautiful tints afforded by the sun which shone with unclouded majesty, transmitting its rays through the coloured glass of the windows) filled the mind with astonishment, at beholding such an immense assemblage of the works of human ingenuity, collected at a vast expence from every quarter of the world. Ascending to the summit of the tower, at the elevation of two hundred and seventy-six feet, the magnificence of nature burst upon my sight, rendering the works of art, which I had been just before contemplating, far inferior in my estimation :—at a distance, the wide extent of hill and vale, the extended plain with many a well-cultivated district, were displayed to view : but nearer, the beautiful and spacious plantation, the placid lake reflecting like a mirror the surrounding scenery, and the groves and gardens about which many were parading, whom curiosity had drawn together, could be seen, and imparted an additional interest to the prospect.

WARDOUR CASTLE,

the seat of Lord Arundel, celebrated for the noble defence made by Lady Arundel, when it was besieged by the parliamentary forces in the reign of Charles the first. LONGLEAT, the residence of the Marquis of Bath, and WILTON HOUSE of the Earl of Pembroke ; are splendid and magnificent structures worthy the name of palaces, and surrounded by extensive and delightful pleasure grounds and gardens ; the last mentioned, is particularly distinguished for its collection of statues, busts, and paintings, many of which are extremely

and internal arrangement; together with the adjoining Chapel which serves as a parish church for a few neighbouring farms, strengthen the idea of its original designation for a religious establishment; whilst in another point of view, it has the character of a Baronial residence, being surrounded by a Moat, and other appearances of defence from the sudden surprise or attack of an enemy.

Though Wiltshire does not possess such a succession of picturesque scenery as some other counties, yet there are many points whence the eye can survey a wide extent of richly variegated country, or concentrate its attention to peculiar spots, the beauty of which are but rarely exceeded. From the summit of its hills, none of which exceed an elevation of eight or nine hundred feet, the prospect is at once beautiful and extensive, particularly from Roundway Hill, near Devizes, which has given title to a Poem enumerating many of the objects to be seen from its summit. But in such highly cultivated countries, where nature has lost so much of her wildness beneath the hand of industrious Agriculture, the eye must seek for gratification in the alternate variety of Hill and Valley, crowned with plantations, or waving with rich corn rather than that Alpine beauty which best satisfies travellers—and instead of the deep ravine, and lofty precipice, delight must be yielded from

- "The shelter'd Cot, the cultivated Farm,
- "The never failing brook, the busy mill,
- "The decent Church that tops the neighbouring hill,
- "The hawthorn bush, the seats beneath the shade
- "For talking Age and whispering Lovers made!"

It is, however, at the residences of many of the nobility and gentry of this county, that the combined workmanship of nature and art, appears to the greatest advantage;—but to particularize these, by an enumeration of their several attractions would be entering upon too wide a field:—to a few, I will in consonance with my proposal make a short allusion, and first, to that far-famed object of attraction, the justly celebrated

FONTHILL ABBEY.

In the month of September, 1822, I paid a visit to

Danes retired, after their defeat by Alfred at Eddington. But the most conspicuous ornament of this hill at the present day is the figure of a White Horse, between forty and fifty yards in length, formed by the removal of the turf, &c. from a stratum of chalk; which from its lofty position is visible at the distance of twenty or thirty miles to the west. This horse, which displays great excellence of proportion, was executed under the direction of the late Mr. Allsup, an eminent surgeon, of Calne, who died in 1816 at the advanced age of 85 years, from whose society the writer of these observations, for a few years preceding his decease, occasionally derived much pleasure and instruction.

A short distance from Bowood, is situated

SPY PARK,

formerly the residence of the Earl of Rochester, (whose follies and depravities were so conspicuous in the corrupt and depraved reign of Charles the second,) and within a few years past, of Colonel Thornton, of sporting notoriety. The Mansion is an ancient building, at the present time uninhabited. It stands upon elevated ground, commanding a fine prospect to the west. The Park, which abounds with picturesque scenes, and is well wooded, has, at one of its entrances, an ancient Gate-way, called the Spy-house, formerly belonging to a Palace at Corsham, occupied by the unfortunate Anne Boleyn. "There are irons still remaining on the top to which a flag was fixed as often as King Henry the eighth visited Corsham." On the opposite side of the road, facing the said Gate-way, is a Lodge of modern erection, leading to ~~Bowden Park~~, the residence of the Dickenson family. The house which is situated at the brow of a steep hill, almost covered with plantations, is built from a design by Wyatt. It is a handsome edifice, (the elevation and ground plan of which is given in one of the engravings which illustrate the article "Civil Architecture," in the 6th volume of the Edinburgh Encyclopædia) and the views from hence to the west, north and south, are very beautiful.

Descending the hill from Bowden Park, and passing through Lacock, the road leads to

CORSHAM,

a small, but neat and respectable town, distant about nine miles from Bath. This town, if we may judge from ancient records, was formerly of considerable consequence, being a royal residence as early as the reign of the Saxon King Ethelred, and at subsequent periods of Edward the third, and of Anne Boleyn, Queen of Henry the eighth. Besides which it was for many years the abode of the Earls of Cornwall. Peculiar privileges were granted to this town by Richard, Earl of Cornwall, brother to Henry the third, and by some of his successors, several of which are still enjoyed by the inhabitants, especially that of having a separate jurisdiction; the Bailiff being at once the Sheriff and Coroner, within the limits of the manor. Corsham does not at the present day present any peculiar character of antiquity, being modern in appearance. Its Church is large and not inelegant; the tower containing a musical peal of bells, was surmounted by a spire, which formed a pleasing object, from many points of view, in the surrounding neighbourhood; but it was removed a few years since, from an apprehension of its falling, and has not been re-built. There are several monuments of an interesting nature, in the church; one in particular, erected by Sir Edward Hungerford, Knight of the Bath, and Sheriff of the county, to the memory of John and Thomas Hulbert, dated 1623. The inscriptions on others afford proof of the salubrity of the adjoining country by the advanced age of the individuals whom they commemorate.

I must offer as an apology for introducing these particulars, the natural predilection I feel for the place of my nativity, and abode in the early part of my life; to which I would add the circumstance of its being the residence of my ancestors for a long series of years.

CORSHAM HOUSE,

the seat of P. Methuen, Esq. has been celebrated for several years past, on account of its valuable collection of Paintings; a collection which is open for public inspection at stated periods, and which excites the curiosity and admiration of a great number of visitors.

It is situated near the church, at the western extremity of the Park, which presents some pleasant scenery, ornamented with a Lake and Plantations; the effect as viewed from the grand Picture Gallery on the east side of the house, being at once picturesque and beautiful. The house itself is large, and stands upon the site of an ancient Mansion, mentioned by Leland, who lived in the reign of Henry the eighth (as being at that time in ruins); presents in its several parts examples of different kinds of architecture. Its north front exemplifies that style so much in vogue about two or three centuries ago, in the seats of the nobility and gentry, and opens into a noble Baronial hall, 110 feet in length, by 25 feet in breadth, and 25 in height, having galleries surrounding it;—whilst on the north side, which was erected a few years since when the house was greatly enlarged and improved, there is a magnificent display of architectural embellishment, with the addition of flying buttresses and turrets, the architect having taken his design from the beautiful east end of Henry the Seventh's Chapel at Westminster.

At a short distance from Melksham, a saline spring was discovered a few years since, of similar medicinal properties to those so celebrated at Cheltenham and Leamington, and the less known, and consequently less frequented, though probably equally efficacious spring, at Admaston, near Wellington, in Shropshire. Since its discovery there have been several buildings erected for the accommodation of visitors, as a pump-room, baths, assembly rooms and lodging houses; and the town itself has been considerably improved. The surrounding country is pleasant, and the views from some of the adjoining eminences, as from Sanbridge Hill, and the salubrious village of Seend, are very rich and beautiful.

There are many other places in Wiltshire, of which a description would have proved interesting, but from particularizing them I shall purposely refrain, apologizing for the length to which this account has been extended, and the imperfect manner in which it has been executed.

J. F. H.

POWIS CASTLE.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

(Communicated by Richard Lloyd, Esq. of Llan-cr-Brochwel Hall, Montgomeryshire.)

DISTANT about one mile (along a pleasant road) from Welshpool is Powis Castle, the Seat of the Right Hon. Lord Clive. A mansion of very ancient origin, having been the residence of many Welsh princes. Before King Offa's time, the Lordship of Powis reached Eastward to the rivers Severn and Dee, and in a right line from Broxton hills to Salop; comprehending all the country between the Wye and Severn, which was anciently the estate of Brochwel Yscithrac. But after the construction of Offa's-dike it was contracted, and the plain country towards Salop inhabited by the Saxons and Normans. The length afterwards was north-east to Pulford bridge, in Llan-gurig parish, on the confines of Cardigan south west; and the breadth from Cyfeilioc west-ward to Ellesmere on the east. This principality Roderic the Great gave (at the great division of Wales, between his three sons) to his younger Son Merfyn, in whose posterity it remained entire till the death of Blethyu ap Confyn, by whom the present Castle is said to have been built, about the year 1108, in the reign of Henry the first. The Welsh called it Castle Coch, or the red castle, from the colour of its original structure; but in order to keep it in a state of repair, the whole has of late years been plastered over with a coat of red lime, so that at present very little of the red stone is to be seen, it having more the appearance of brick: and the antique grandeur of the building is destroyed, by the alteration of the windows to modern sashed ones.—The ascent to the castle is up a large and laborious flight of steps, with the chief entrance through a gateway. The furniture in most of the rooms is in the ancient style of elegance; and in some of them the old and faded tapestry is yet remaining.

In a detached building, more modern than the castle, is a collection of 60 or 70 pictures. Some of these are

by the first masters, as Poussin, Claude, Bassano, Vleiger, Canaletti, Cuyp, &c. The Virgin and Child, by Carlo Dolce; three Owls, by Rubens; an ancient painting in fresco, from the ruined city of Pompeii. The portrait of the late Lord Clive, by Dance. In an adjoining closet is the model of an elephant, covered with a coat of mail, with two indians upon its back, brought from India by the late Lord Clive.

In the centre of the building, through a small court, is a covered walk, supported by four or five pillars. Opposite, on entering, is a figure of Hercules, and on the left a handsome staircase, whose walls and ceiling were painted by Lonsdale in 1705. The ceiling represents the Coronation of Queen Anne; the figures are well formed, particularly a Horse and Man in Armour. The walls are Mythological and Allegorical, consisting of figures of Neptune, Amphitrite, Apollo, Venus, Poetry, Painting, Music, Doreas cutting the Thread of Life, &c. &c.

At the bottom of the Staircase is a curious Marble figure of Cybele sitting and holding a Globe, about three feet high, placed on a pedestal of the same height, brought from the ruins of Herculaneum. On the under part of the staircase is painted the figure of Aurora by the same artist. On the left is a small parlour; on the right, a room with the pictures of Saint Catherine receiving a ring from Christ, and Sampson betrayed to the Philistines, both excellent paintings. Above stairs, in the tapestry-room, over the door, is a fine painting of Cleopatra dissolving the pearl, and another well executed, of Venus and Cupid, as, also, a Salutation, very fine, and said to have cost 500 guineas.

The tapestries of the Sextagon bed chamber represent several parts of Nebuchadnezzar's life. Here is also a noble Gallery, 117 feet by 20, in the window of which, is an elegant inlaid marble table, very large, representing birds, &c. also busts of the twelve Cæsars, brought from Italy, larger than life, the vests of composite marble of a yellowish cast.

Besides a curious copper bust of the famous Lord Herbert of Chirbury. Out of the gallery, is a State-room, intended for King Charles, whose cyphers are in

gold letters in the door and window pannels, but the state bed, having gone to decay, has been removed. In the drawing-room, which is of considerable dimensions, is a handsome ceiling of plaster of Paris, representing the twelve signs of the Zodiac, with Phœbus in his Chariot in the centre; at the corners are the coronet and arms of the family. In a small breakfast parlour are several pannels painted with different subjects on canvas, particularly one of David playing on the harp before Saul; the expression of jealous rage in the countenance of the latter is remarkably well executed. The ball-room is spacious, but detached from the house. Lord Lyttleton appears to have been particularly delighted with this place, and observes that £3,000 judiciously laid out, would render Powis Castle the most august place in the kingdom.

Gardens have been laid out with parallel terraces, and squared slopes. The ancient water works and clipped shrubs are removed. The Park, formed of spacious and verdant lawns, with swelling hills, extends to Welshpool, and is excellently wooded. At the top of this park are distant views of Plinlimmon, Cader Idris, Snowdon, Aran-mowddwy, &c. and an index is placed pointing to each of them. A road is tastefully conducted to the castle, which is occasionally seen and lost in the approach.

The first Lord Powis, created so by Charles 1st, obtained this Castle (on which seventeen manors in the county are still dependent) by purchase, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. In October 1644, Powis Castle was attacked, and taken for the Parliament by Sir T. Middleton, and its owner, Percy, Lord Powis,* taken prisoner, and all his estates sequestered, on account of his

* Percy, Lord Powis, was eldest son of Sir William Herbert, first Lord Powis, by Eleanor, youngest daughter of Henry Percy, the eighth Earl of Northumberland, and grandson to Sir William Herbert, Knight, who was second son to the chivalrous William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke. Percy, Lord Powis, was created in his father's life time, a Baronet, and, having married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Craven, departed this

attachment to the King's party, but he obtained a session by compounding for them; and they have continued with his descendants to the present time, the property of Lord Clive the eldest son of the Earl of Powis.

life, 19th of January, 1666, and was buried at the pool, leaving issue William, his only son, and a daughter, married to George, Lord Talbot, eldest son to Earl of Shrewsbury. The latter, William, was created Earl of Powis, in consideration of his Loyalty and special merits, by Charles II, 1674—from whom descended Lady Henrietta Antonia Herbert (only daughter and heir of George Edward Henry Arthur Herbert Earl of Powis) who married Edward, second Lord son of the celebrated hero of that name, was created count Clive and Earl of Powis, in 1804; and resides at Walcot Hall, near Bishop's Castle, Shropshire. His eldest son, the present Herbert, Lord Clive proprietor of Powis Castle, and its noble domain, under his patronage in September, 1824, the Eisteddfod, a Grand Musical Festival, was held at the pool, on which occasion the Musical and Poetical talents of the Principality were called forth, (as in olden times) and the flower of the English Vocal and Instrumental performers gathered around him; when the Castle dependencies were most hospitably and liberally opened for the reception of numbers of noble and distinguished persons, who, attracted by the performances, & the additional brilliance and interest to an event worthy of Cambria's royal ages. The zeal and which Lord Clive exhibits for the prosperity and well-being of the Principality, and for the restoration of ancient taste and grandeur, were eminently conspicuous in the management of the Eisteddfod,—one princely and patriotic occasions, on which persons of superior rank and influence become still more elevated since in benefiting all around them, they cannot add proportionate lustre to their own character and fame.







La chiesa di S. Maria della Vittoria, Roma

1871 - 1872 - 1873 - 1874 - 1875 - 1876 - 1877 - 1878 - 1879 - 1880 - 1881 - 1882 - 1883 - 1884 - 1885 - 1886 - 1887 - 1888 - 1889 - 1890 - 1891 - 1892 - 1893 - 1894 - 1895 - 1896 - 1897 - 1898 - 1899 - 1900

EATON HALL.

COUNTY OF CHESTER.

The Seat of the Right Hon. The Earl Grosvenor.

(From an Original Article in the Liverpool Kaleidoscope)*

IN an age so careless, of private architectural offerings at the shrine of taste, it is a proud and well-earned distinction for one individual to construct a mansion worthy of marking the grandeur of English nobility—by overstepping even the baronial magnificence of former times. The Earl Grosvenor is entitled to the thanks of his country for that noble production of Gothic architecture, Eaton Hall, which he has raised on the site of his paternal mansion.

This elegant structure is about four miles to the southward of Chester. At Iron-bridge, a fine private carriage way, with a broad bordering of green sward, strikes from the Eccleston road, through young plantations, bordered with choice shrubs. The entrance is marked by a neat octagonal Gothic lodge of white freestone, highly finished in the richest modern Gothic style. The road then intersecting a thriving forest, sweeps along the open park, where the fallow deer are seen bounding along on a wide sea of verdure, which is here and there diversified by clumps of trees. This park extends for miles along the west front of the mansion, and gently declining westward, without any perceptible inclosure, appears to blend itself with the rich wooded valley which divides it from the Welsh mountains. The nearer approach to the hall affords several picturesque views of its turrets peeping over the gigantic trees, that seem to embrace it. The stranger, on first beholding the front of the stately pile, is touched with admiration.

The demolition of the former mansion of the Grosvenors, a building possessing little claim to beauty, was

* One of the most interesting and amusing Periodical publications of the present day.—ED.

commenced by the present noble owner in 1803, and was gradually replaced on the same site, by the main part of the present structure. It is built of beautiful white freestone, from Delamere forest. The designs were furnished by the celebrated architect, Mr. Purdon, and do him honour as an artist. The present additions, consisting of two large new wings, with two octagonal towers, in the same range, to correspond on each end of the main building (the north wing 150 feet long by 75 feet wide, the south 102 by 62,) were commenced in 1821.

The whole of the house, including the wings and towers, which correspond on each side (and which by the elevation of the first wings finely harmonize with the main body) is four hundred and fifty feet in length. If to this be added the length of the stables adjoining, which are built in a corresponding style, the range of building extends nearly 600 feet. In the middle of the west front is a portico of superb workmanship, through which runs the carriage road. Viewed from almost any point, this portico well confirms the superiority of the rich clustered Gothic archwork in perspective, over perhaps all other orders. A flight of steps leads to the massy door of the Entrance-hall, where strangers are received, who, unless when the apartments are occupied by visitors, or on some particular occasions, are permitted, by the liberality of the family, to view the state-rooms.

The Entrance-hall, which is thirty feet square and thirty feet in height, affords an appropriate foretaste of the beauties of the interior. Fronting the door is a Gothic gallery or veranda, supported by clustered pillars and with richly-wrought pointed arches. The gallery, which is of imposing height, forms a part of a corridor to several of the principal rooms above, and enters from the top of the grand stair-case. The bannisters (or rail work) above are of the richest Gothic open work, centred with prominent heraldic shields, bearing family crests. The gently curved roof, which seems supported by the variously-branching arches or raised mouldings, is finely fretted. These mouldings terminate in a rich centre piece, whence is suspended a superb chandelier.

The projecting clustered arches of the windows on each side the door are supported by fanciful heads of scowling wights (as is frequent in this class of buildings) whose various distortions of countenance seem to indicate strong objections to the yoke imposed upon their necks. The fire-place and grate are strictly appropriate. The marble work rises on each side in pinnaced projections. In the centre of the arch between, is the wheat-sheaf (the crest of this noble family) which is frequently to be found on shields, &c. throughout the building. The marble terminates on the top with battlements. The groundwork is of a dark variegated colour—the Gothic mouldings of white. The floor is of a party coloured marble, done after an appropriately large design. Here is placed the celebrated Roman altar* of stone, found in 1821, at Boughton, and carefully preserved by his Lordship, on account of its antiquity. This we learn, it is purposed to place in a Gothic temple about to be erected in the pleasure-grounds, on the east side of the house. There is a cabinet picture over the fire place, of Oliver Cromwell dissolving the long parliament. Another historical piece decorates the opposite wall.

To the right of the Entrance-hall is the main staircase, lighted with a beautifully coloured lantern in the centre of the lofty roof.

The Dining-room is a princely apartment, fifty feet in length, forty in breadth, and twenty-eight in height. The stained glass in the windows has a fine effect; in the centre of the middle window is a full length figure, "in armour," of "Hugh Lupus," first Earl of Chester, painted on the glass. The room is finished in rich Gothic style.

Proceeding southward is an ante-room. The floor is oak finely chequered. The furnishing (as we may say of the whole house) is Gothic; though such is the variety of taste in the appliance of the laws of the order, that not one room is alike.

We thence pass into the Salloon, which is, perhaps, the most splendidly decorated apartment in the building.

* See page 135.

A door here opens out of the cloisters, forming the grand entrance to the house from the east front.

Beyond the Saloon, is another ante-room corresponding with that already described. On the glass are three other Knights of the olden time. The drapery of the walls is blue silk. Here are some elegant pieces of furniture of eastern workmanship.

Next, and southmost, is the Drawing-room, fifty feet long, forty broad, and twenty-eight in height. It is lighted by a bow window, similar to that in the dining-room, and also by a large Gothic window, facing the south, which renders it extremely cheerful. The prospect is extensive and delightful. The walls of this room are of crimson velvet, and the whole seems to comprise all that is beautiful in Gothic adornment. The chandelier has 18 lamps. The furniture, couches, sofas, and tables (of which last alone we observed seven) are of the most costly and elegant form and materials, exhibiting the most beautiful woods, drapery, and ornaments.

The main floor of the North Wing, which is 150 feet in length and 75 in breadth, contains, on the east front, a grand state bed room and dressing rooms; and on the west, besides other apartments, a private chapel gothically embellished.

The basement story of the new South Wing is designed for a ball room and the occasional entertainment of his Lordship's tenantry. The chief floor of this wing (on a level with the state-rooms) consists of an addition to the library, by the appropriation of a floor of the octagonal tower, thirty feet in diameter, and twenty-two feet in height, communicated by large folding doors, opened out where before stood a Gothic window facing the south. The original part of the library will, in consequence, be lighted from the roof. The floor of this library is of fine oak, elaborately chequered: the book shelves are of the same material, richly carved in Gothic style, and surmounted with appropriate ornaments. The adjoining room is a grand banquetting room, and is adequate to the reception of a numerous party, being sixty-four feet in length, fifty-two feet in breadth, and thirty feet in height. The banquetting-

oom, the tower-room, and the original library communicated by a range of elegant arches ; thus forming one immense room one hundred and twenty feet in length, and central, with an elegant, and infinitely-arched corridor, which runs in a straight line through the whole body of the house, on the main floor, a length of four hundred and fifty feet ; presenting one of the most agreeable and imposing perspectives which architecture, ancient or modern, has produced.

The whole range of building is fenced from the grounds on the west, and from a broad flagged and carpeted terrace, running the whole length of the main building, on the east, by a massy stone railing, enriched with Gothic open-work, centred with heraldic shields and figures.

The west front of this princely mansion looks out upon the extensive deer-park, which embraces also the two ends of the building, and gently slopes towards the rich-wooded valley at the foot of the Welsh mountains. From the centre of the house, the eye traces a wide and verdant avenue, skirted by stately trees, which diminish afar in perspective until they seem to unite at the bottom of the park.

The principal portion of the pleasure-grounds is on the east side of the Hall, and is entered by a flight of steps from the middle of a large stone terrace, which embraces the whole of this front of the building.

Speaking of the rural beauties of Eaton-hall, we would conclude, that they are pleasing, rather than striking—solemn, rather than romantic. There are no immediate wild mountains, or bold and naked crags, or torrents, to contrast with the softer scenes of the landscape ; but there are expansive tracts of verdure, some water, a rich panorama in the distance ; and, amidst embowering woods, much of that placid grandeur which is associated in the contemplated mind with the annals of “ the deeds of the days of other years.”

TEMPLES, &c.

MOSQUE OF ST. SOPHIA.

CONSTANTINOPLE.

(From Kelly's Geography.)

THE principal of the royal mosques of Constantinople, is that of St. Sophia, which is advantageously situated on an eminence on one of the best and finest parts of the city. It was formerly a Christian church, having been built in the sixth century by the emperor Justin, and afterwards enlarged and beautified by Justinian; and, though the Turks have now converted it into a mosque, it still retains its ancient name. The length of this edifice is one hundred and fourteen paces, and its breadth eighty, having in the front a portico thirty-six feet wide, supported by marble columns, which, in the time of the Greek emperors, served for a vestibulum, where such persons were appointed to stand as intended to receive the sacraments, or undergo public penance.—This portico has a communication with the church by nine stately folding-doors, the leaves of which are brass, and adorned with fine bas-reliefs; and on the middle-most some figures of mosaic work may be still discerned. Another portico, parallel to this, has only five brazen doors, without bas-reliefs, but formerly charged with crosses, which the Turks have defaced.

The body of the mosque is covered by a dome of admirable structure, at the foot of which runs a colonnade, sustaining a gallery ten yards broad, which, when the Christians were masters of it, was set apart for the women; and over this are two smaller galleries, supported by columns and arches of excellent workmanship, answering to those below. The dome is said to be one hundred and thirteen feet in diameter, and is built upon arches supported by vast pillars of white marble. The incrustations of the gallery are mosaic, mostly done with little cubes of glass, which by time are continually loosened from their cement; but their colour is fresh and unchangeable. The form of the dome is that of a hemisphere or half-globe, and it is illuminated by

twenty-four windows, placed round it at equal distances. — On the east side of this vast cupola is a demidome, which was the chancel of the Christians; and here is now a niche, where the Turks keep their koran, containing the pretended revelations and predictions of their prophet. This niche is in that part of the dome which stands towards Mecca, and the niches in all the mosques are placed in the same manner; for the Mahometans always turn their faces that way, when they offer up their prayers.

At a little distance from the niche is the mufti's chair, raised on several steps; and on the side of it is a kind of pulpit, where certain prayers are repeated by persons appointed for that purpose. The Turks have been accused of pulling down some parts of this edifice, since they took it from the Christians; but, instead of this, they have added four of those tall, slender minarets before mentioned.

CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

ROME.

(From Various Authorities).

IN this edifice the arts of architecture, sculpture, and painting, are all displayed in the highest perfection. The original structure was erected by Constantine, and had been giving way for some time previous to the middle of the 15th century, when Nicolas V. conceived the project of taking it down, and erecting a new and more extensive structure. The work, however, was feebly prosecuted, till the reign of Julius II. That proud prelate proceeded with it on a grand scale, and succeeding popes contributed to the completion of the structure. The most celebrated architects of modern times, Bramante, Raphael, Michael Angelo, Vignola, Maderno, and Bernini, have displayed their talents on this vast undertaking, the total expence of which must have amounted to at least £12,000,000 sterling. Entering a circular court formed by a vast colonnade, the spectator is struck by the majestic front of the building, extending 400 feet in length, and rising to the height of 180. The

eye is at the same time gratified with the majestic dome, rising from the central part of the roof of the church, to a height which, reckoning from the ground, is 494 feet. The interior of the church corresponds perfectly with its outward grandeur. Five lofty portals open into the portico, a gallery extending across the width of the edifice, and resembling in size a cathedral. This magnificent entrance is paved with marble, covered with a gilded vault, and closed at either end by statues. Opposite to the five portals are five doors, each leading into the church. On entering any of these, the spectator beholds the most spacious hall ever constructed by human art, expanding in magnificent perspective, its length being above 600 English feet. The aisles and altars are adorned with a number of ancient pillars; the walls are varied with festoons, wreaths, tiaras, and other ornaments of marble. The patriarchal chair of St. Peter is a throne, elevated to the height of 70 feet. The high altar has below it St. Peter's tomb; above it a magnificent canopy of brass, towering to the height of 132 feet. But of all the objects in this admirable edifice, the most surprising is the dome, the vault of which rises to the height of 400 feet, and extends over the spectator like a firmament. A well lighted stair case leads to the roof of St. Peter's, from which the dome can be viewed with minuteness. The access to every part of it, and even the ascent to the cupola, is perfectly safe and easy. The most recent part of this vast pile is the vestry or sacristy, a structure connected with the main building by a gallery, and adorned with a number of pillars, statues, paintings and mosaics. It forms of itself a spacious church, being covered with a dome, and surrounded with chapels.

I shall now, (says Mr. Williams in his travels through Italy, Greece, &c.) lead you to St. Peter's, and endeavour to represent the interior of that noble temple.—The view is perhaps the best near the bronze statue of St. Peter;* and immediately beside it the survey of the

* The statue of Jupiter Capitolinus, the supreme divinity of ancient Rome, furnished the material for this

interior is magnificent and imposing. We saw it under the most striking effect, adorned with the beams of the sun, playing upon its gorgeous magnificence—the noble dome, with its various colossal paintings in mosaic, of angels, prophets, and apostles, the latter in spandrels at least twenty-five feet in height. In the transept of the cross are seen the noble sepulchral monuments of the Popes, by Canova, Bernini, Michael Angelo, and others; splendid pictures in mosaic, designed by Raphael, Domenichino, Guercino, and Guido, scarcely distinguishable from the finest paintings; grand columns of marble, porphyry, and granite, the gigantic supporters of the dome, each of which, were it hollow, would be sufficient to contain hundreds of people. Numerous colossal statues of saints, in niches, at least thirteen feet high; the various and precious stones which impanel the walls of the whole building; the richness of the ornamented roof; the galleries from which the relics are occasionally exhibited; the great altar of Corinthian brass by Bernini, (the height of which is not less than the highest palace in Rome) with its twisted columns wreathed with olive; the hundred brazen lamps continually burning, and surrounding the tomb of the patron saint, with its gilded bronze gate, enriched to the utmost with various ornaments; the massive silver lamps; the hangings of crimson silk; the chair of St. Peter, supported by two popes, statues of great magnitude; the pavement composed of the most rare and curious marbles of beautiful workmanship; the statue of St. Peter, with a constant succession of priests and persons of all descriptions, kissing his foot; the people going to be confessed and to engage in other acts of religion—form a whole not to be paralleled on earth: especially when seen, as I saw it, with the sun's beams darting through the lofty windows of the dome, throwing all into mysterious light, tipping the gilded and plated ornaments, and giving additional richness to the colours of the mosaic painting, and to the burnished silver lamps, which sparkled like

statue of Peter, the presiding saint of the modern capital.

little constellations ; while the effect of all was heightened by the sound of the organ at vespers, swelling in notes of triumph, then dying upon the ear, and sinking into the soul ; the clear melodious tones of the human voice, too, filling up the pauses of the organ, diffusing a deeper solemnity through this great temple, and making us feel an involuntary acknowledgment to God, who had gifted man with such sublime conceptions.

This sacred temple is open in common to the prince and to the beggar ;* and here the latter may find an asylum, and even feel, amidst his present abasement, the exaltation of his nature. Never shall I forget a poor wretched diseased boy, not more than four years of age, with scarcely a rag to cover him, kneeling in front of all the magnificence which I have attempted to describe, with his little hands and eyes raised to heaven. His appearance in such a place excited in our minds even higher feelings of the sublime, than all the surrounding pomp and splendour of papal decoration ; for while this gorgeous fabric shall be crumbling into unsightly ruins—this little human speck, almost overlooked amidst the variety and vastness of surrounding objects—this little heir of immortality will enjoy undiminished youth throughout the ages of eternity.

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. PAUL.

LONDON.

(From Various Authorities.)

THE Cathedral Church of St. Paul holds the most distinguished rank among the modern works of architecture in the British empire. The first stone was

* I remember (observes Mr. W.) seeing two Princesses kneeling at the tomb of St. Peter, when a common mendicant came up, and placed herself within a few inches of them. The servants of the Princesses, in splendid liveries, kneeled behind ; but they were not very devout. They kept pulling each other's coats, and pointing to the pictures, and the beautiful effects of the sun's rays through the windows of the dome.

laid June 21st, 1675; and the last in 1710; the work being completed in 35 years by one architect, Sir Christopher Wren. The plan is a Latin cross, with an additional arm or transept at the west end, and a semicircular projection at the east end, for the altar: a dome rises from the intersection of the nave and transept, and is terminated by a lantern, surmounted by a ball and a cross, of copper gilt. The west front consists of a double portico of two orders, the Corinthian and the Composite, resting on a basement formed by a double flight of steps of black marble, and surmounted by a spacious pediment. On each side is a tower, with columns, &c. one serving as a belfrey, the other as a clock tower. The dome is the most remarkable and magnificent feature of the building, rising from a circular basement, which, at the height of about 20 feet above the roof of the church, gives place to a Corinthian colonnade, formed by a circular peristyle of 30 columns. Above the colonnade, but not resting upon it, rises an attic story, with pilasters and windows, from the entablature of which springs the exterior dome, which is covered with lead, and ribbed at regular intervals. Round the aperture, at its summit, is another gallery; and from the centre rises the stone lantern, which is surrounded by Corinthian columns, and crowned by the ball and cross. The architectural detail of the interior is in the Roman style, simple and regular. The piers and arches which divide the nave from the side aisles, are ornamented with columns and pilasters, of the Corinthian and Composite orders, with other decorations. The dimensions of this vast fabric are as follow: height from the ground without, to the top of the cross, 340 feet; extreme length within 500; greatest breadth, 223 feet. The entire ascent to the ball is by 616 steps. The weight of the ball, which is capacious enough to contain eight persons, is 5600 lbs.; and that of the cross 3360 lbs.—This cathedral contains monuments erected to the memory of many eminent persons deceased; particularly Mr. Howard the philanthropist; Dr. Johnson, Sir William Jones, General Abercrombie, General Dundas, Marquis Cornwallis, Lord Howe, Lord Nelson, &c.—The body of the great architect is deposited in the vault

—and an inscription over the choir points out the edifice itself as his most appropriate monument.

Contrasted estimate of the dimensions of St. Peter's, Rome, and St. Paul's, London :

St. Peter's. Feet.	St. Paul's. Feet.
673 Extreme length	510
444 Transept	238
448 Height of the top of the Cross outside	404
88 Breadth of the Nave, 49; with the aisles	107
146 Height of the Nave	106

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

THE NEW MARKET, LIVERPOOL.

(From Hulbert's *Trip to the Isle of Man*.)

THIS stupendous building, designed by John Foster, jun. Esq. and erected by the Corporation of Liverpool, at an expense of £35,000, was begun in August, 1820, and finished in February, 1822. It is situated in the centre of the town, in the immediate neighbourhood of Queen-Square, Clayton-Square, and Williamson-Square. Its principal front is in Great Charlotte-Street. It is built of brick, with the exception of the foundations, the handsome entrance, the cornices, &c. which are formed of massy stone; and it is roofed throughout, in five ranges from end to end, two of the breadths being considerably elevated for the purposes of affording the advantages of side-lights and ventilation. There are 136 windows, all the casements of which are upon swing-centres, and easily opened. The length of the building is 183 yards; its breadth, 45 yards; forming a covered space of 8235 square yards, or nearly two statute acres. There are six spacious entrances.

On entering the interior, the spectator is amazed at the immense size of the structure, its loftiness, lightness, and airiness. It is one large, well formed, and lightly-painted Hall; compared with which, the celebrated

Fleet Market is a miserable shed, and Westminster Hall is a moderate-sized room. The interior is divided into five avenues, there being four rows of handsome cast-iron pillars, 23 feet high, supporting the conjoined buttments of the roofs along the entire building. The pillars are 166 in number. The walls are lined by 62 shops and 6 offices, close to the lower tier of windows, between which and the upper ones the sloping roofs of the shops are placed. The shops, the dimensions of which are 6 yards by 4, are provided with fire-places, and are let to dealers in various kinds of provisions, namely, Butchers, Pork-dealers, Fruiterers, Fishmongers, Poulterers, Cheesemongers, Bread-bakers, &c. The offices are for the use of the Superintendent of the Market, the Collectors of the tolls and rents, the Weighers of provisions, &c. The shops, of course, present their fronts to the interior of the Market, and, by means of doors and shutters, the whole can be safely inclosed during the night. The great body of the Market is occupied by four ranges of stalls, tables, &c. running in a line with the pillars from end to end, including 160 stalls, 34 green-standings; 18 fruit-standings; 44 stone compartments for potatoes; 36 fish-standings; 201 table-compartments for eggs, poultry, and vegetables; and 122 forms or benches for similar articles. There are 144 gas lights, by which the place is brilliantly illuminated every night; there are 29 store-cellars under the shops. In different parts of the Market, there are four cast-iron pumps, supplied from beneath by excellent wells; and every evening, as soon as the place is cleared, a signal bell being sounded half an hour previously, the floor is well washed and swept by twelve scavengers; after which all the gates are closed, and two watchmen are locked in to guard the property from depredation.

All the regulations respecting this market are founded on prudence and an enlightened policy, consistent with the wisdom and public spirit of the inhabitants of the second sea-port in the world.

PLYMOUTH BREAKWATER.

(From the Edinburgh Gazetteer.)

THE great Bay of Plymouth Sound forms an excellent roadstead, which is now rendered secure by the construction of the Breakwater across its entrance. This work is the greatest of the kind ever undertaken in the kingdom. The exposed situation of the Sound had been long and severely felt as an extreme inconvenience in the harbour, and it was at last determined to oppose, if possible, some barrier to the heavy swell which is here almost continually rolling in from the Atlantic.—The plan at last adopted, with the advice of the most experienced engineers, men of science, and naval officers, was to construct at St. Carlos rocks, about three miles south of Plymouth, a mole, or vast heap of stones, in the middle of the sound, stretching across its entrance occupying nearly the half of its width, and leaving a free passage for vessels, both on the eastern and western shores. The whole expense was estimated at £1,171,100 viz. £1,051,200 for the mole or breakwater, and £119,900 for a pier along the top, with light-houses.—It was proposed that the breakwater should begin 360 feet on the eastward of St. Carlos rock, and extend 1800 feet west of the Shovel rock; the whole length to be 1700 yards, or very nearly a mile, 4000 feet in the middle being quite straight, and the two extremities having a slope up the sound. It was estimated that 2,000,000 tons of stone would be required to finish it; and it was advised to heap them promiscuously together in large blocks, not less than 1½ or 2 tons weight each, leaving them to find their own base and position. Where the water was 30 feet deep, the dimensions of the breakwater were to be 40 feet high, 30 feet across the top, and 210 feet wide at the foundation. The work was begun in 1812; the first stone was sunk on the 12th of August; and on the 31st March, 1813, the building began to make its appearance above the surface of low water at spring tides. The stones were quarried from a rock of limestone or grey marble, purchased from the Duke of Bedford, for £10,000, and situated on the eastern shore of Catwater. More than 50 vessels, of

peculiar construction, were employed in carrying the stones to the work; 12,000 of which were 5 tons and upwards each; and the quantity of stone deposited, up to the year 1816, was upwards of 1,000,000 tons. The part of the breakwater above the level of low water spring tides, was then 1100 yards, 360 feet were completely finished to the height of three feet above the level of the highest spring tides. On the whole, this great work has been conducted with great skill and surprising despatch, and the result has fully answered the expectations of its projectors. At the end of the second year, the swell was so much broken, that ships of all sizes ran in, and anchored in confidence behind the breakwater. Since that time 200 sail of vessels of every description have here found shelter, and 25 or 30 sail of the line may now ride at all times, in security. The Eddystone lighthouse is an important appendage to the harbour, without which the entrance would be extremely dangerous.

MONUMENTS.

THE MONUMENT OF THE FIRE OF LONDON.

(*From Smith's Wonders of Nature and Art.*)

THIS beautiful and magnificent Column, of the Doric order, is built of Portland stone, and was erected to perpetuate the memory of the fire of London, which broke out near the place where it stands, was begun, according to a design of Sir Christopher Wren, in 1671, and finished in 1677. It is fifteen feet in diameter, and two hundred and two feet high from the ground—it stands upon a pedestal forty feet high, and twenty-one feet square. On the cap of the pedestal are four dragons, the supporters of the city arms; and between them trophies with symbols of regality, arts, sciences, and commerce.

Within it is a spiral stair-case of black marble, containing three hundred and forty five steps, with iron

rails leading to a balcony, which encompasses a cone, thirty-two feet high, and supporting a blazing urn of brass gilt. It is observed of this column, that, like the Emperor Trajan's pillar at Rome, it is built in form of a candle.

The west side of the pedestal is adorned with emblems by Cibber, of which the eleven principal figures are in alto, and the rest in basso relievo. The figure to which the eye is particularly directed is a female, representing the city of London, sitting in a languishing posture on a heap of ruins. Behind her is Time gradually raising her up; at her side a woman, representing Providence, gently touches her with one hand, while, with a winged sceptre in the other, she directs her to regard two goddesses in the clouds, one with a cornucopia, denoting plenty, the other with a palm branch, the emblem of peace. At her feet is a bee-hive, importing that, by industry and application, the greatest misfortunes may be overcome. Behind Time are citizens, exulting at his endeavours to restore her; and beneath, in the middle of the ruins, is a dragon, the supporter of the city arms, who endeavours to preserve them with his paw. Still further, at the north end, is a view of the city in flames, with the consternation of the inhabitants. On the other side, on an elevated pavement, stands King Charles II. in a Roman habit, who, approaching the figure representing the city, appears to command three of his attendants to descend to her relief: the first represents the Sciences, the second Architecture, and the third Liberty. Behind the King stands his brother the Duke of York, with a garland in one hand to crown the rising city, and a sword in the other, for her defence; behind him are Justice and Fortitude; in the pavement, under the Sovereign's feet, appears Envy peeping from her cell, and gnawing a heart; and, in the upper part of the back ground, the re-construction of the city is represented by scaffolds, erected by the sides of unfinished houses, with builders and labourers at work upon them.

The other sides of the pedestal have each a Latin inscription: that on the north side is an account of the rise, progress, and amazing devastation of the fire of

London ; the inscription on the south side specifies the prudent and vigorous measures taken by the King and Parliament for restoring the city, with greater beauty, magnificence, and convenience, and for preventing similar misfortunes for the future ; the inscription on the east side contains the names of the Lord Mayors from the time it was begun till it was finished ; and round the upper part of the pedestal is the following inscription in English :

" This Pillar was set up in perpetual remembrance
 " of the most dreadful burning of this Protestant city,
 " begun and carried on by the treachery and malice of
 " the popish faction, in the beginning of September, in
 " the year of our Lord 1666, in order to their carrying
 " on their horrid plot, for extirpating the Protestant
 " religion, and old English liberty, and introducing Popery and slavery."

This inscription, upon the Duke of York's accession to the crown, was erased : but soon after the revolution, it was restored again.

It has been observed of this monument, that it is undoubtedly the noblest modern column in the world ; and that in some respects, it may vie with those celebrated ones of antiquity, which are consecrated to the names of Trajan and Antoninus.

LORD NELSON'S MONUMENT.

LIVERPOOL.

(*From the Liverpool Kaleidoscope.*)

ON a basement of Westmoreland Marble stands a circular pedestal of the same material, and peculiarly suitable in colour to the group which it supports. At the base of the pedestal are four emblematic figures of heroic size in the character of captives, or vanquished enemies—in allusion to Lord Nelson's signal victories. The spaces between these figures, on the sides of the pedestal, are filled by four grand bas-reliefs, executed in bronze, representing some of the great naval actions in which the immortal Nelson was engaged. The rest of the pedestal is richly decorated with lions' heads.

and festoons of laurel; and in a moulding round the upper part of it is inscribed in letters of brass, pursuant to the resolution of the general meeting, that most impressive charge delivered by this illustrious Commander, previous to the commencement of his battle of Trafalgar,—“ENGLAND EXPECTS EVERY MAN TO DO HIS DUTY.”

The figures constituting the principal design are Nelson, Victory, and Death; his country mourning for her loss, and her navy eager to avenge it, naturally claim a place in the group.

The principal figure is the Admiral, resting one foot on a conquered enemy, and the other on a cannon. With an eye stedfast and upraised to Victory, he is receiving from her a fourth naval crown upon his sword; which, to indicate the loss of his right arm, is held in his left hand. The maimed limb is concealed by the enemy's flag, which Victory is lowering to him, and under the folds of which Death lies in ambush for his victim; intimating, that he received the reward of his valour and the stroke of Death at the same moment.

By the figure of an exasperated British seaman is represented the zeal of the navy to wreak vengeance on the enemies who robbed it of its most gallant leader.

Britannia with laurels in her hand, and leaning regardless of them on her spear and shield, describes the feelings of the country fluctuating between the pride and the anguish of a triumph so dearly purchased, but relying for security on her own resources.

In preferring an historical group to a naval column, or a single statue, and in selecting the subject above described from a considerable number of designs of great excellence, it was one principal aim of the Committee to erect such a monument as should not only do honour to the town of Liverpool, as an effort of art, but should excite in the breast of the spectator those feelings, moral and patriotic, which a work of the highest class ought always to inspire. They therefore adopted that, which appeared to them best calculated to exhibit, in the strongest manner, the glory and happiness of the hero who dies in the defence of his country; and who in the act of grasping at another crown which the goddess of Victory is placing on his sword, is insensible to

the stroke which terminates his glorious career. At the same time it was their wish to contrast the exultation inseparable from such an event, with the sincere sorrow and deep regret occasioned by the death of this distinguished commander, and to impress upon the minds of the present, and of future ages, a firm conviction, that life itself cannot be better resigned than in the cause of our country.

The Monument is executed in bronze by Richard Westmacott, Esq. R. A. The subscription commenced on the 15th of November, 1805, and finished the same year, amounting to about £9000. The weight of the bronze of which it is composed is estimated at upwards of 22 tons. The figures are of the proportion of seven feet.

LORD HILL'S COLUMN,

SHREWSBURY.

(*From an original Article, by a Young Salopian, in Linbird's Mirror of Literature, Amusement and Instruction.**)

THIS Doric fluted column, (surmounted by a Statue) was erected by voluntary subscription of the inhabitants of Shrewsbury and its neighbourhood, in honour of Lord Hill, and is considered as the largest in the world. The diameter of the shaft at the plinth being fifteen feet, which is one foot more than the diameter of Nelson's column at Dublin, and that which was erected by Buonaparte in the *Place de Vendome*, Paris.

The pedestal is square, with a pier, or buttress, at each angle, on which are placed Lions couchant, worked (by Mr. Carline of Shrewsbury,) in the Grinshill freestone, the same as the column. The colossal statue is of artificial stone; and on the North, East, and South sides of the pedestal are tablets, on which are appropriate inscriptions.

* This work has deservedly obtained an unprecedented circulation, 20,000 numbers being sold weekly.

The height of the pedestal, 13 feet 6 inches; shaft and capital, 91 feet 6 inches; pedestal for figure, 11 feet 6 inches; colossal statue of his Lordship, 17 feet; total, 133 feet 6 inches. The total expense of erection was £5,973.

The staircase, consisting of 172 steps, geometrically projected, forms a well, and from the bottom to the landing round the well, upon each step, stands a cast-iron balustrade, with a pannel in its centre; on the pannel is raised a Roman gilt letter, of two inches, forming the following inscription :

" This Staircase was the Gift of JOHN STRAPHEN, the Builder, as his Donation towards erecting this Column. The first stone of the foundation was laid December 27th, 1814, and completed June 18th, 1816, the Anniversary of the glorious Battle of Waterloo."

Near the column stands the cottage, a beautiful Doric design, and consistent with it, originally devoted to the residence of Sergeant Davies, an old soldier, who having served many years under Lord Hill, was thus admitted to a share of the honours of his commander. He, however, enjoyed the tranquillity of peace but a short period. His widow now shews the monument, and she has been indebted (as was her late husband) to the kindness of Lord Hill and his family for many comforts which the precarious gifts of visitors did not afford.

The voice of fame had for some years previous to the close of the late war been proclaiming the victories of Lord Hill to his countrymen, and the feeling which teaches us to consider ourselves participators in the glories (as we are often implicated in the disgrace) of our brothers, rendered his achievements peculiarly interesting to the inhabitants of his native county.— And as was to be expected, he was welcomed, on his return to Shropshire, with the utmost anxiety and enthusiasm; his first entry into Shrewsbury had much of the form, and all the splendid concomitants, of a Roman triumph, and all we read of in history and poetry of the glories of heroes seemed realized. This enthusiasm assumed a solid and lasting form in the towering monument we have just described.

CELEBRATED EUROPEAN BRIDGES.

(Editor and Select Authorities.)

TRAJAN'S Bridge over the Danube was very magnificent. The stone piers were 20 in number, each 0 feet above the foundation ; 60 feet in breadth, and stant from each other 170 feet. The arches were oken down by Adrian, but the piers are still remain-
r.

THE BRIDGE OVER THE RHONE,

St. Esprit, in Languedoc, is reckoned one of the finest Europe. This Bridge is of stone, and of a great length, isisting of twenty-six arches, whose piers are secured two pedestals that surround them, which have their jectures like rows of steps or stairs, the lowermost jecting most, the others less by degrees. Above these several small arches, which divide the feet of the at ones, and reach as low as the plane of the upperst pedestal. As the Rhone is a very rapid river, s Bridge is admirably contrived to withstand its violence ; for the unequal juttings of the pedestals, serve dually to break the force of the stream. Dr. Smol- ; mentioning this bridge, observes, that it is a great iosity from its length, and the number of its arches ; that the arches are too small, the passage above too row, and the whole appears too slight to resist the etuous force of the river.

THE MOST STUPENDOUS BRIDGE

Europe, is that built over the Taaf in Glamorgan-re, consisting only of one arch, the segment of a circle se diameter is 175 feet ; the chord of the segment or n of the arch is 140 feet ; the height 35, and abut- nts 32 feet ; it was erected in the year 1756.
To view this arch as an external object, it can scarcely sufficiently admired, as crossing the vale abruptly ppears to connect the opposite hills, while, with its it and elegant curve, it does in a manner almost duce the effect of magic, and will be a lasting monu-

ment of the ability and genius of its untutored architect, William Edwards, a native of Wales.

The bridge of the greatest extent in England built over the Trent at Burton ; its length is 1. supported by 34 arches.

THE STRAND, OR WATERLOO BRIDGE

is one of the noblest structures of the kind in the world, whether we regard the simple and chaste grandeur of its architecture, the idea of indestructibility which it impresses the beholder, or its convenience as a bridge. It was begun in the year 1811, and completed in 1817, on the anniversary of the battle of Waterloo. The bridge crosses the Thames, from a place near the Strand, to Lambeth marsh. It consists of 11 equal arches, each of 120 feet span : the piers are 12 feet thick, and adorned with Tuscan columns. The width within the parapets is 42 feet. The bridge itself is perfectly flat, and the approach to it on both sides, for a considerable distance, is built on a level to preserve the level of the road. It is built on the direction of John Rennie, Esq. and upwards of £1,000,000, was raised by subscrip-

THE SOUTHWARK BRIDGE,

opened in May, 1819, was built by private subscription under the direction of Mr. Rennie. It unites the district of Southwark, with Queen-street, Cheapside, &c. It consists of three arches, of which the centre is 110 feet span, and each of the side ones 210 feet. The piers are of iron, springing from stone piers and abutments.

THE VAUXHALL BRIDGE

crosses the Thames from Millbank to Vauxhall, and contains nine arches, of 78 feet span each. The approach is of cast iron, with piers formed by a wooden frame with Kentish ragstone and Roman cement. The width of the roadway is 36 feet. A road is opened from the bridge to Pimlico ; and it is thus connected with the Park corner.

THE COALBROOKDALE* IRONBRIDGE

over the Severn, in the county of Salop, was erected in the year 1780, and is remarkable as being the first erection of the kind in the kingdom. It is 100 feet span, and 40 feet high, and contains 378 tons of metal.

At Buildwas, about a mile from the former is another beautiful Ironbridge.

THE IRONBRIDGE OF SUNDERLAND,

in the county of Durham is justly regarded as the greatest curiosity in that part of the country, and is deserving of attention, as a magnificent work of art. It consists of an arch of iron frame-work, thrown over the river, 237 feet span, and rising 100 feet above the level of the water ; so that ships even of four hundred tons can sail under it, by only striking their top-gallant masts.

But the erection calculated to eclipse every other of a similar nature, is that of which we have given some particulars, page 264, of the ' Museum Asianum,' viz.

THE SUSPENSION BRIDGE

over the Menai Strait, near Bangor, Carnarvonshire : but, as the description there introduced is not so full, nor so strictly accurate, as that accompanying a print by

* Coalbrookdale is in the parish of Madeley, a place of some antiquity, and particularly celebrated for having afforded refuge to Charles II. after the battle of Worcester. The Barn in which he was concealed is now a Malt-house, and preserved with great care by its present worthy proprietor, the Rev. Mr. Bartlett.

Madeley is no less eminent as the home scene of the pious and active exertions of the late Rev. John Fletcher, and of his equally pious and benevolent widow, Mary Fletcher. The poor will long revere their names, and with gratitude remember those hands which so often fed them.

Near the Ironbridge there is a weekly Market, and all the bustle of a small manufacturing town. The Tontine Inn has excellent and reasonable accommodations. There

Tyrol, from a drawing by Mr. W. A. Provis, resident Engineer, we give it entire, as the best which can be given.

"Distance from centre to centre of the main pillars 579 feet; Span of the Cutwaters 570 feet; versed Sine 43 feet; Height from low water of spring tides to the roadway 121; ditto from high water of ebb to ditto 100 feet; Height of the main supporting pillars above the roadway 50 feet; Span of each of the stone Arches 52½ feet; Total breadth of Roadway 28 feet, divided into a footway of 4 feet wide in the centre, and carriage-way of 12 feet wide on each side. Number of suspending Chains 16, each composed of 5 bars, and each bar having a Section of 3½ inches of iron.

The breadth of the bridge being divided into a footway and two carriage-ways, there are consequently 4 sets or lines of suspending Chains."

AQUEDUCTS.

At the village of Chirk, in Denbighshire, is a fine Aqueduct consisting of 10 arches resting upon Pyramidal piers of stone, carrying the Ellesmere Canal across a deep valley for upwards of 300 yards. Its height, up to the balustrade, 65 feet in the centre. This canal is shortly afterwards carried under ground for 750 feet; when a short distance farther, at Ponte Scythe, it is conveyed over the River Dee by another splendid aqueduct, consisting of 18 piers, 45 feet distant from each other. The whole is said to be 1007 feet: the height from the surface of the river to the upper line of the balustrade 126 feet, and its width about 12 feet within the iron work. It has an appearance of lightness in which the aqueducts of Glasgow and Lancaster are deficient.

are several Mercers, and Grocers, Shops, a very respectable Printing establishment &c. The scenery in the neighbourhood is of the most singular and romantic description. A night view from the top of Lincoln Hill, when all the furnaces, lime works, &c. are in active operation, would remind the spectator of *other regions* than those *upon earth*.

PART IV. CHAP. IV.

EUROPEAN VARIETIES.

*Prevailing Religions, Singular Customs, Rare
Phenomena of Nature, Remarkable Events,
Mechanical Inventions, Extraordinary Men
and Women, &c. &c.*

And does the Love of God by thee inhaled,
Glow in thy soul / that filled with love of kind
And holiest acts, thy bosom wide expands,
God, Man, and Angel, finding there a place. —
Then art thou Christian, whatsoe'er thy name,
And time will be when thy rapt soul shall mount
To heights sublime of Bliss, while Bigots' flame
Shall burn like kindred fiend's, and sink to Hell.

MOTTERSHEAD.

PREVAILING RELIGIONS IN EUROPE.

(The Editor chiefly.)

THE prevailing Religion of Europe is undoubtedly that of the Christian, and very probably the Religion of almost every reader of the "Select Museum." Few, therefore, will expect a very copious description of a Faith so universally adopted; still it may be necessary that some of its leading features and peculiar excellencies should be noticed, and the prominent differences in the Creeds of its most numerous and powerful Sects or divisions delineated, with as much accuracy and candour as possible. An enemy to prejudice and persecution, a friend to christian charity and brotherly love in their most extended sense, the desire of

the Editor will be to inculcate the same disposition in his readers, by shewing the agreement rather than the extreme points of disagreement among Christians.

The term Christian, signifies a disciple or follower of Jesus Christ; one who acknowledges the Holy Scriptures to be of divine origin, and considers them as the foundation of his faith and practice.

All Christians maintain that God is Infinite in all his attributes or perfections, the Creator and preserver of the universe; nor are they less uniformly agreed, that Jesus Christ was a personage commissioned and sent into the world by the Father, to instruct by his own knowledge and example; to die for the benefit of man; to rise for his conviction of the truth of a resurrection from the dead, and to ascend into heaven for his greater comfort, from whence this same Jesus will descend at the last day and become the Judge of quick and dead. All Christians agree in their belief of a state of future rewards proportioned to their Faith and Piety, and of punishments according to their Immorality and Unbelief. All Christians agree that Vice of every description is forbidden by their head, or lawgiver, and that Virtue alone is pleasing to God, and productive of Happiness.

The CHRISTIAN CHURCH is comprised of three grand divisions; the Catholic, the Protestant and the Greek.

While every Christian community with which we are acquainted, excepting the new Jerusalem Church, avow a conviction that their religion must have been that of the Apostles and early christians, the Catholic lays bolder claim to antiquity than any of them. Catholics affirm that their first bishop was no less a personage than St. Peter himself, whom they suppose to have been the first bishop of Rome; and from him they trace a succession of bishops down to the present time.

The Catholic religion certainly was the first sect embraced by kings and rulers. The Greek is more ancient than the Romish church, though not as a distinct and separate community; for during the first eight centuries the two churches were united, but in the ninth a schism took place, they afterwards came to be distinguished by the names *Eastern* and *Western* Churches.

The following may be considered as a candid summary of

THE FAITH OF CATHOLICS

who profess to believe in seven Sacraments, BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, the EUCHARIST, PENANCE, EXTREME UNCTION, ORDERS AND MATRIMONY. Their opinions respecting baptism, confirmation, and matrimony, differing so little from general opinion, or the sentiments of our established church, an explanation is quite unnecessary.

In the sacrament of the BODY and BLOOD of the Lord Jesus Christ, they believe, that the bread and wine, after it is blessed by the priest, is actually changed, into the body and blood of the crucified Saviour; and this they call transubstantiation; and they enjoin the necessity of paying divine honours to Christ, whom they believe to be present, under the form of the consecrated bread or host.

With respect to PENANCE, the Catholic believes it damnable, to think injuriously of Christ's passion; nevertheless he believes, that though *condign satisfaction* for the guilt of sin, and the pain eternal, due to it, be proper only to Christ our Saviour; yet that a penitent sinner being redeemed, and made his member, may in some measure, satisfy by prayer, fasting, alms, &c., for the *temporal pain* which by order of God's justice sometimes remains due, after the guilt and eternal pain are remitted; but these penitential works, he is taught to be no otherwise satisfactory, than as joined and applied to that satisfaction, which Jesus made upon the cross; in virtue of which alone, all good works find a grateful acceptance in God's sight. The Catholics admit of suffering after death, in a middle state, or state of purgatory, and say that every sin how slight soever, though no more than an idle word, as it is an offence to God, deserves punishment from him, and will be punished by him hereafter, if not cancelled by repentance here, and that such small sins do not deserve eternal punishment; yet they pretend not to determine, what proportion of punishment may be due to such sins. They believe that the prayer of the faithful, here on earth, will avail with the Almighty, for the more speedy release of those in a state of penal

sufferings ; hence they have masses offered up to God for departed members of the church : yet this state of purgatory, is considered as distinct from the state of eternal punishment in hell.

EXTREME UNCTION, or the anointing of persons in the article of death, is practised in compliance with the precept of the apostle James, ch. v. 14th and 15th verses ; it is administered to none but such as are in danger of death by sickness.

ORDINATION is looked upon as a sacrament, and is the act of conferring holy orders, or of initiating a person into the priesthood by prayer and laying on of hands.—Their clergy are under a solemn engagement to observe continency, and are forbidden to marry.

In this Church there are various shades of difference existing among its professors, but none are allowed to remain in her communion who do not, at least *outwardly* conform to her discipline and profess an attachment to her doctrines and institutions.

As a *body*, they tolerate no religion at variance with their own ; nor admit the possibility of the salvation of obstinate and wilful heretics ; because the holy Roman Catholic Church, being in their opinion, the only true church, it is the duty and the interest of all men to become obedient to her laws and teachings.

Hence, it is manifest, that the Roman Catholics reject the Protestant doctrine of " the right to private judgment in matters of religion," teaching that all spiritual knowledge, and all ecclesiastical authority, emanate to the faithful, first from Christ, and secondly, from the church, whose head and members may, as individuals, err, but as a whole, cannot.

The Pope of Rome, though they do not admit his infallibility, is acknowledged as first or supreme in the church, as well in matters of faith as in those of discipline.

The Roman Catholic faith at present predominates in Europe, and is the established religion of the Italian States, France, Spain, Portugal, the Austrian Empire, and Poland. There are, notwithstanding, in each country Protestants of almost every denomination ; some Jews, and many of no religion whatever. In Ireland Catholics are numerous.

PROTESTANT,

is now a general appellation applicable to LUTHERANS, CALVINISTS, and ARMINIANS. The name Protestant, was first given in Germany to those who adhered to the doctrine of Martin Luther,* and who in 1529 protested against a decree of the Emperor Charles the Fifth, and the Diet of Spire, declaring that they appealed to a general council.

The system of faith embraced by

THE LUTHERANS,

was drawn up by Luther and Melancthon, and presented to the Emperor Charles V., in 1530, at the diet of Augusta, or Augsburg, and hence called the Augustan or Augsburg confession. The leading doctrines of this confession are the true and essential divinity of the Son of God; his substitution and vicarious sacrifice; and the necessity, freedom, and efficacy of divine grace.

From the time of Luther to the present day, no change has been introduced into the Creeds and discipline received in this church. The method, however, of illustrating, enforcing, and defending the doctrines

* Martin Luther was born at Islebon, in Upper Saxony, in the year 1483. He possessed an invincible magnanimity, and uncommon vigour and acuteness of genius. He first took offence at the indulgences which were granted in 1517, by Pope Leo X. to those who contributed towards finishing St. Peter's Church at Rome, Luther being then Professor of divinity at Wittenberg. Those indulgences promised remission of all sins, past, present, and *to come*, however enormous their nature, to all who were rich enough to purchase them. At this Luther raised his warning voice; and in 95 propositions, which he maintained publicly at Wittenberg, Sept. 30, 1517, exposed the doctrine of indulgences, which led him to attack also the authority of the Pope. This was the commencement of that memorable revolution in the Church which is styled the *Reformation*; though Mosheim fixes the era of the Reformation from 1520, when he was excommunicated by the Pope.

of Christianity, has undergone several changes in the Lutheran church; and though the confessions are the same, yet some of the doctrines which were formerly maintained by Luther, have been of late abandoned by his followers. In particular, the doctrines of *absolute predestination*, *human impotence*, *irresistible grace*, for which Luther was a most ardent advocate, have been rejected by most of his followers.

The members of this church are distinguished principally by maintaining the following doctrines: neither the pope nor any other man possesses authority in matters of faith, but that the Scriptures are a collection of inspired, sufficient, and clear words; that the only source whence our religious sentiments are derived, whether they relate to faith or practice, must be derived from God; and to which human reason ought, in every respect, to submit and yield; that man is naturally incapable of thinking or doing any good work before God; that justification and future happiness are the effect of the meritorious and vicarious death of Jesus, as God and man in one person: that faith is the necessary condition of grace on the part of man, which faith is the gift of divine grace; that good works are of value only as far as they are the effect of faith; that, however, there exists no unconditional predestination, and that the real body and blood of Jesus are united in a mysterious manner, through the consecration, with bread and wine, and are received *with and under* them in the sacrament of the Lord's supper. This last doctrine is distinguished by the word *consubstantiation*, formed, together with the doctrine of predestination, for a long time, the principal party wall between Lutherans and Calvinists; but it, as well as most of the other doctrines, has been, if not formally, at least virtually abandoned, or considerably modified, by a great number of Lutherans.

The constitution of the Lutheran church in Sweden bears great resemblance to that of the church of Denmark. However, neither in Sweden, nor in Denmark, is that authority and dignity attached to the Episcopal office, which the church of England bestows upon its dignitaries.

LUTHERANISM is the established creed and form of religion in Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, in a great part of Germany, particularly in the north, and in Saxony; in Livonia, and Esthonia, and the greatest part of Prussia. There are also Lutheran churches in Holland, Courland, Russia, Hungary, &c. In Russia, the Lutherans are at present more numerous than any other sect, that of the Greek Christians excepted.

CALVINISTS.

The name Calvinist was given to those who embraced the doctrine, church-government and discipline established at Geneva, by John Calvin,* and which was intended to distinguish them from the Lutherans. But since the meeting of the synod of Dort, this appellation has been applied chiefly to those who embrace Calvin's leading views of the Gospel, and is intended to distinguish them from Lutherans and Arminians.

The principal doctrines by which they are distinguished are reduced to five articles, which, from their being the chief points discussed at the synod of Dort, have since been denominated *the five points*. These are PREDESTINATION, PARTICULAR REDEMPTION, TOTAL DEPRAVITY, EFFECTUAL CALLING, and the certain PERSEVERANCE of the SAINTS.

I. The Calvinists maintain, that God hath chosen unto eternal glory a certain number of the fallen race of Adam in Christ, before the foundation of the world, according to his immutable purpose, and of his free grace and love, without the least foresight of faith, good works, or any conditions performed by the creature; and that he was pleased to pass by, and ordain dishonour and wrath, the rest of mankind, for their sin, to the praise of his vindictive justice.

* John Calvin was born at Noyen, in Picardy, in 1509, and was originally brought up for the church; but conceiving a high disgust to popery, he applied to the study of the civil law. Returning, however, to theology, in 1535 he published his "Institutions of the Christian Religion," which received his final corrections in 1558; and this has been considered as a standard work by his followers ever since.

II. They maintain, that though the death of Christ be a most perfect sacrifice, and satisfaction for sin infinite value, and abundantly sufficient to expiate sins of the whole world: and though on this ground the gospel is to be preached to all mankind indiscriminately: yet it was the will of God, that Christ by blood of the cross, should efficaciously redeem all it and those only, who from eternity were elected to salvation, and given to him by the Father.

III. The Calvinists maintain, that mankind are depraved, in consequence of the fall of the first: the sin of whom, as their public head, involved the ruption of all his posterity; and that this corruption extends over the whole soul, and renders it unable to turn to God, or to do any thing truly good, and expose it to his righteous displeasure, both in this world that which is to come.

IV. The Calvinists maintain, that all whom God predestinated unto life, he is pleased, in his appointed time, effectually to call by his word and spirit, out of that state of sin and death in which they are by nature, to grace and salvation by Jesus Christ.

V. Lastly, the Calvinists maintain, that those whom God has effectually called and sanctified by his Spirit, shall never finally fall from a state of grace.

It is necessary to add, that the Calvinistic system includes in it the doctrine of three co-ordinate persons in the Godhead, in one nature, and of two natures in Jesus Christ, forming one person. Justification by faith alone, or justification by the imputed righteousness of Christ, constitutes also an essential part of the system. The Calvinists suppose, that on the one hand our sins are imputed to Christ, and on the other that we are justified by the imputation of Christ's righteousness to us; that is, Christ, the innocent, treated by God as if he were guilty, that we, the guilty, treated by God as if we were innocent and righteous.

Calvin considered every church as a separate and independent body, invested with the power of legislation for itself. He proposed that it should be governed by presbyteries and synods, composed of clergy and lay members.

In a work of so miscellaneous a character, it cannot be expected that a particular account should be given of every sect or party forming separate divisions of the Christian Church; suffice it to say, that the leading denominations among Protestants, are either Calvinistic or Arminian in their doctrines of grace. The Scotch Church, the Seceders, the Independents, the Particular Baptists, the Whitfieldian Methodists, and Lady Huntingdon's connection are Calvinists.

The Wesleyan Methodists of every division, and they are now various, are Arminians; to which general Baptists and Quakers may be added.

Differing from these are the UNIVERSALISTS, who designing to unite the principles of Calvinists and Arminians, contend that the Scriptures teach Particular Election, General Redemption, and Universal, or Final Restoration.*

The articles of the Church of England are so framed, that conscientious Calvinists, Arminians, or Universalists may safely remain in her communion.

The late Rev. R. De Courcy, was a strenuous Calvinist; the late Rev. J. Eyton, a zealous Arminian, and the present Rev. B. Hill, a Universalist—each of them authors and clergymen of acknowledged learning, integrity and exemplary Piety.

The majority of those clergymen denominated *Evangelical*, are Calvinists; there are, however, numbers of Pious men of each respective opinion, calmly enjoying their own peculiar views, loving and serving each other.

The Church of England is considered the most liberal established religion in the world.

The UNITARIANS are another division of Christianity, but far from being the most numerous body; their principal distinction consists in their denying the doctrine of the Trinity, and supposing that Jesus Christ was not a

* The Rev. Elhanan Winchester, who died in America in the year 1797, was a zealous preacher of the doctrine of "the Restitution of all things"—hence the Universalists have been denominated Winchesterians, see page 224 Museum Americanum.

Divine Being, but a personage full of the spirit of God, and by him commissioned and empowered to perform miracles, to preach the Gospel of Salvation, to exhibit an example of piety and suffering to all his followers, to die for the truth of his religion, and to rise again for the assurance of man's resurrection at the last day.

The followers of Baron Swedenborg, and some other minor sects are not sufficiently numerous to authorise the appellation of *prevailing* sects; we must therefore refer our readers to Dr. Evans's Sketch of all Religious Denominations, Williams's, Adams's, &c. works on the same subject, or to the "Religions of Britain," by the Editor of this Museum.

The Greek Church (see page 283 Museum Asianum) is the established religion of Russia. There are some Pagans in Lapland, and Mahometans in European Turkey, and a few in the free Greek Islands. There are Jews in all parts of Europe.

SINGULAR EUROPEAN CUSTOMS

SPANISH BULL FIGHT.

(From *Recollections of the Eventful Life of a Soldier.**)

"**M**ADRID has been so often described by writers of ability, that it would be presumption in me to attempt it, even did the limits of this work allow; but the delightful walks of the Prado, the gardens breathing perfume—the beautiful fountains—the extensive and picturesque view from the Segovia gate—the cold and delicious shades on the banks of the Manzanares—their women—their music and nightly serenades, gave it to my mind the charm of romance, and now falls upon my

* For an acquaintance with this modest, but most interesting publication, the Editor is indebted to the well merited eulogium bestowed on it by the Editor of the *Literary Chronicle*, of January 22, 1825.

memory "like the song of early joys, delicious, dear—and gone!"

During the time we remained in Madrid, our troops were allowed free access to the museum, in the street Alcala, nearly opposite our barracks. In it there was a very valuable collection of natural history, particularly a lump of native gold brought from South America, which weighed many pounds, some enormous boa constrictors, and the entire skeleton of a mammoth. This, like the British museum, was free to all visitors three or four days a week.

Several times during our stay in Madrid we were admitted, gratis, to see the bull fights, the great national amusement of the Spaniards. The place where this was exhibited is a vast amphitheatre, with three tiers of boxes ranged along the wall, the roof of the building coming so far over as to cover them only, all the rest being open. In the highest range of these on the shade side was the king's box, gorgeously decorated, those on its right and left being occupied by the principal nobility. About a dozen seats sloping from the lowest tier of boxes formed the pit, where the common people were admitted, and which varied in the price of admission, according to the degree of shade afforded. In front of the pit was a passage of a few feet wide, separated from the arena by a barricade between five and six feet high. The arena or space where the bulls were fought was of great dimensions; two main passages opened into it through the barricade, one by which the bulls were drawn off when killed, and the other by which they entered; communicating with a place where they were kept previous to the fight, that resembled, in some degree, a large cage, having spaces between the planks that covered it, where they goaded and otherwise tormented the animals, to render them more savage before they entered the arena. But besides these entrances there were smaller doors opening into the passage, by which the bull could be driven back into the arena, in the event of his leaping the barricade, this being no unfrequent occurrence.

I only witnessed the sight once, lord Wellington was present, and sat in a box on the right of the king's, the

royal box being empty. The performance commenced by a guard of soldiers marching into the centre of the arena, forming a circle, and on a signal by beat of drum, facing outwards, and marching up to the barricade, where, placing a foot on a step, on the next signal, they vaulted over into the passage, where they stood during the exhibition. The horseman who was to attack the bull, now entered, dressed somewhat in the same manner as our equestrians or rope dancers, armed with a spear, rolled round with cord to within half an inch of the point, to prevent the wound which he might give the animal from proving mortal. With him also entered the men on foot, whose office was to irritate or divert the attention of the bull from the horseman when in too great danger. They were dressed in nearly the same style, only carrying different coloured mantles or cloaks.

The signal was now given for the performance to commence. The footmen ranged themselves round the barricade, while the horseman placing his spear in the rest, remained opposite to, and some distance from, the door by which the bull was to enter. All being thus prepared, the door was thrown open—the animal rushed furiously out—his nostrils dilated—and his eyeballs gleaming fire. A flight of pigeons which were let off at his head as he entered the arena, irritated him, and attracted his attention a little, but perceiving the horseman, he began to roar and paw the ground, and rushed forward upon him. The horse being urged to a gallop, he was met half-way, and struck by the spear on the shoulder, and fairly thrown on his hind legs, bellowing fearfully with the pain of the wound. The horse had now started aside, and when the animal regained his feet, which he did almost instantaneously, he was surrounded by the footmen, who, whenever he made a charge at one of them threw a mantle over his head, and while he tossed it, and roared to get rid of it, danced round, planting arrows in his sides and neck, filled with crackers—which by the time he got free of the cloak, began to go off, and maddened him to the utmost degree. His appearance at this time was terrific, the horseman was now prepared for a second charge, which being made, the bull was again attacked by the footmen,

ten ran imminent danger, being pushed so close that they were obliged to leap the barricade. This attack was continued several times, until the being tired, the matador was called for, who on foot without any defence but a small sword.—men on foot still continued to irritate the animal, it was roused to the utmost pitch of madness, the matador placing himself in its way, in the of one of its most furious attacks, calmly waited roach. Seeing the bull close upon him, we expected that the man would be gored to death, that there possibility of his escape. But the moment the animal came within his reach, he darted the quick as lightning, between the horns, into the f his neck, and he fell dead at his feet without a single struggle. The music now began to and amidst the deafening plaudits of the spectators mules gaily caprisoned entered, and having races fastened to the dead bull, dragged him from ena.

bulls were thus dispatched without much variation the mode; but one of them, (of Andalusian remarkable for its strength and fierceness, having missed by the horseman in his attempt to him, came on so furiously that he had not time pe, and the bull running the poor horse up at the barricade, lowered his head, and bringing up ns, tore up his belly in such away, that part of vels protruded at the wound, and hung down to und. The horseman who had, with great agility, wn up his leg, was now supported from falling se who were in the passage, his right leg being l in between the horse and the barricade. The on of the animal was soon drawn off by the men ; and the man was no sooner released from his ous situation, than mounting afresh the wounded , he endeavoured to push it forward to another , with its bowels trailing on the ground. This which deserved to be execrated as a piece of cruelty, was lauded to the skies, and cries of o! bravo!" resounded from every quarter. But

the poor animal only moved a few steps, when it down dead.

The bull was now enraged so much that not could divert him from his purpose, and having followed one of the footmen to the limits of the arena, he leaped the barricade after him. A scene of dreadful confusion ensued, those in the pit and passage flying every direction. The danger was soon over, however, for opening one of the doors already mentioned, he was driven back into the arena, and dispatched by the matador.

The last bull ushered in was baited by dogs. I do not believe that many of our men were much captivated with this amusement—it was rather considered a cruel and disgusting one. I cannot understand how it is so much encouraged in Spain, unless it be to serve the same purpose that we pay boxers to murder each other viz. to keep up the national courage.

I have known some of those *bravising* fellows in the army, indeed every regiment has its *bully*, but altho they were always forward enough to abuse and tyrannise over their fellow-soldiers, who were not of the *fancy*, never knew one of them that displayed even ordinary courage in the field; and it was invariably by fellows of this description that outrages, such as those perpetrated at Badajos, were committed."

Though it may not appear in perfect unison with the arrangement of our Museum to introduce the following most affecting scene, the feeling of the moment impels its insertion.

"After the storming of Badajos (says this most intelligent soldier, page 82, vol. ii.) when I observed the defences that had been made, I could not wonder at our troops not succeeding in the assault. The ascent of the breach near the top was covered with thick planks of wood firmly connected together, staked down, and studded full of sword and bayonet blades, which were firmly fastened into the wood with the points up; round the breach a deep trench was cut in the ramparts, which was planted full of muskets with the bayonets fixed standing up perpendicularly, and firmly fixed in the

earth up to the locks. Exclusive of this they had shell and hand grenades ready loaded, piled on the ramparts, which they lighted and threw down among the assailants. Round this place death appeared in every form, the whole ascent was completely covered with the killed and for many yards around the approach to the walls, every variety of expression in their countenance, from calm placidity to the greatest agony. The sight was awful : anxious to see the place where we had so severe a struggle the preceding night, I bent my steps to the ditch where we had placed the ladders to escalate the castle. The sight here was enough to harrow up the soul, and which no description of mine could convey an idea of. Beneath one of the ladders, among others, lay a corporal of the 45th regiment, who, when wounded, had fallen forward on his knees and hands, and the foot of the ladder had been, in the confusion, placed on his back. Whether the wound would have been mortal, I do not know, but the weight of the men ascending the ladder had facilitated his death, for the blood was forced out of his ears, mouth and nose.

Returning to the camp, I had passed the narrow path across the moat, where many lay dead, half in the water. I had scarcely reached the opposite side, when I perceived a woman with a child at her breast, and leading another by the hand, hurrying about with a distracted air, from one dead body to another, eagerly examining each. I saw her come to one whose appearance seemed to strike her (he was a grenadier of the 83rd regt.) she hesitated some moments, as if afraid to realize the suspicion which crossed her mind. At length seemingly determined to ascertain the extent of her misery, releasing the child from her hand, she raised the dead soldier (who had fallen on his face) and looking on his pallid features, she gave a wild scream, and the lifeless body fell from her arms. Sinking on her knees, she cast her eyes to heaven, while she strained her infant to her bosom with a convulsive grasp ; the blood had left her face, nor did a muscle of it move, she seemed inanimate, and all her faculties were absorbed in grief.

The elder child looked up in her face for some time

with anxiety; at last he said, "Mother, why don't you speak to me? what ails you? what makes you so pale? O speak to me, mother, do speak to me!"—a doubt seemed to cross her mind—without noticing the child, she again raised the mangled corpse, looked narrowly at his face, and carefully inspected the mark of his accompaniments—but it was too true—it was her husband.—Neither sigh, nor groan, nor tear escaped her, but sitting down, she raised the lifeless body, and placing his head on her knee, gazed on his face with feelings too deep for utterance. The child now drew himself close to her side, and looking at the bleeding corpse which she sustained, in a piteous tone, inquired "Is that my father? is he asleep, why doesn't he speak to you? I'll waken him for you"—and seizing his hand, he drew it towards him—but suddenly relapsing his hold, he cried, "Oh! mother, his hand is cold—cold as ice." Her attention had been drawn for some moments to the child, at length bursting out, she exclaimed, "Poor orphan! he sleeps, never to wake again—never, O never, will he speak to you or me!"—The child did not seem to understand her, but he began to cry. She continued, "O my God! my heart will burst, my very brain burns—but I can't cry—surely my heart is hard—I used to cry when he was displeased with me—and now I can't cry when he is dead! Oh, my husband, my murdered husband!—aye, murdered," said she, wiping the blood that flowed from a wound in the breast.—O my poor children! drawing them to her bosom, "what will become of you?" Here she began to talk incoherent—"Will you not speak to me, William—will you not speak to you dear Ellen—last night you told me you were going on guard, and you would return in the morning, but you did not come;—I thought you were deceiving me, and I came to look for you." She now ceased to speak and rocked backwards and forwards over the bleeding corpse; but her parched quivering lip, and wild fixed look, showed the agonized workings of her mind.—I stood not an unmoved spectator of this scene, but I did not interrupt it. I considered her sorrow too deep and sacred for common place consolation. A woman and

of the same regiment who had been in search now came up and spoke to her, but she took no notice of them. A party also who were burying the dead, and they crowded round, striving to see her. I then withdrew, and hastened on to the city, my mind filled with melancholy reflections; for days after I felt a weight on my mind, and even retain a vivid recollection of that affecting scene. I was not a solitary sufferer, many a widow and many a man were made by the siege and storming of Badajos; amounting in killed and wounded to about three hundred men."

CARNIVAL AT ROME,

ITALY.

(From Lady Morgan's Italy.)

several days before the beginning of these festivities, the "city of the dead" exhibits the agitation, and hurry of the living. The shops are converted into wardrobes; whole streets are lined with masks and finery, the robes of sultans, and jackets of pantaloons, the canopies are suspended, balconies and windows are crowded with hangings and tapestry, scaffolds are erected for the accommodation of those who have not the means to obtain admission to the houses and palaces, the whole line of the Corso; while double rows of booths are placed along the causeway, and hired by the day by the still less opulent candidates for festivity.

The season is the vintage for virtuosi and dealers in paintings and pictures, who know how to take advantage of the necessity for a carriage during the week. A man in disguise, a splendid dress, a ticket for the balls at the Teatro Aliberti, thus frequently displaces the treasures of a gallery, and of that little stock of knowledge, which every one in Rome prides himself on. The bust of a Greek sage often goes to or-

nament the bosom of a pretty woman, and the a Roman Empress is pitted against the coiffe French milliner; while vases and *baguoli* are out privately for sale, by night, to escape the c of invidious neighbours, whose jealousy or adu is to be excited on the following morning by the of the *equipage d'obligation*, with its new lives masquerading attire.

On the first day of the Corso, few of the regula are assembled; but all Rome is already a mass rehearsal. Old women are patching harlequins' before their doors. Young ones assume the in waxen faced mask, white trousers, and shirt b loosely over every thing, with its sleeves tied wi loured ribbons—the common disguise of all tho can afford no other. Already they try the p their yet unexercised wit, and “*intriguent*” and “*guai*,” (i. e. tease and torment) all who pass on i in carriages; but more especially the *forestier* are usually taken for English. Children are where busy making or tying on their paper mask girding their wooden swords. At the sound of ti non, which, fired from the Piazza di Venezia, ca announce the commencement of the amusements are closed, palaces deserted, and the Corso's lot narrow defile teems with nearly the whole of the i population. The scene then exhibited is truly s —and for the first day or two infinitely amusing whole length of the street, from the Porta del Po the foot of the Capitol, a distance of considerabl than a mile, is patrolled by troops of cavalry, tl dows and balconies are crowded from the first sixth story by spectators and actors, who from t time descend, and take their place and parts in tl cession of carriages, or among the maskers on Here and there the monk's crown, and cardin skull-cap are seen peeping among heads not mo tastic than their own. The chairs and scaffolding the sides of the street are filled to crushing with ers, and country folk in their gala dresses (by i most grotesque that the Carnival produces.) Ti

tre of the Corso is occupied by the carriages of princes, potentates, the ambassadors of all nations, and the municipality of Rome; and two lines of carriages, moving in opposite directions on each side, are filled by English peers, Irish commoners, Polish counts, Spanish grandees, German barons, Scotch lairds, and French marquises; but above all by the hired jobs of the *badauds* and *pissicavoli* of Rome. These form not the least curious and interesting part of the procession, and best represent the Carnival, as it existed a century back. In an open carriage sits, bolt upright, *la signora padrona*, or mistress of the family, nearly the whole of her beautiful bust exposed, or only covered by rows of coral, pearl, or false gems: her white satin robe and gaudy head-dress left to "the pitiless pelting of the storm," showered indiscriminately from all the houses and by the pedestrians on the occupants of carriages, in the form of sugar plums, but in substance of plaster of paris or lime. Opposite to her, sits her *caro sposo*, the model of all those *cari sposi*, of whom Jerry Sneak is the abstract and type. He, good man, is dressed as a grand sultan or Muscovite czar: his hands meekly folded, his eyes blinded with lime, and his face unmasked, to show that it is to him belongs the gay set-out, the handsome wife, the golden turban, and crimson caftan. The *cavalier pagante*, if there is one in the family, or the favourite Abate, if there is not, occupies the place next the lady, snugly hidden under the popular dress of Pierrot or *Pagliaccio*; while all the little signorini of the family, male and female, habited as harlequins, columbines, and kings and queens, are stuffed in without mercy. Even the coachman is supplied with a dress, and straddles over the box as an elderly lady, or an Arcadian shepherdess; and the footman (or the shop 'prentice, or the *scroccone*, who assumes his place behind the carriage) takes the guise of an English miss, or a French court lady; and figures in a spencer and short petticoat, with an occasional "god-dam;" or, accoutred with an hoop and a fan, salutes the passers-by with "*Bonjour, Messieurs*."

The carriages of a few of the princes, of the Governor

of Rome, and of Monsieur Blacas, the French Ambassador, were conspicuous for their gaudy splendour; while the morris-dancers of Europe, the most thinking people of England, always foremost in the career of amusement, made more noise, occasioned more bustle, and threw more lime, than all the rest of the population put together.

At the Ave Maria, or fall of day, the cannon again fire as a signal to clear the street for the horse-course. All noise then ceases; the carriages file off by the nearest avenue, their owners scramble to their windows, balconies, chairs, or scaffolds; while the pedestrians, that have no such resources, driven by the soldiery from the open street, are crowded on the footways to suffocation. But no terror, no discipline can restrain their ardour to see the first starting of the horses; and lives, constantly risked, are frequently lost in this childish eagerness for a childish amusement.

A temporary barrier, erected near the Porta del Popolo, is the point from which the race commences: another from the Piazza di Venezia is the termination of the course. The horses are small, and of little value. They have no rider, but are placed each in a stall behind a rope, which is dropped as soon as the moment for starting arrives; when the animals seldom require to be put in motion by force. A number of tin foil and paper flags are stuck over their haunches, small pointed bodies are placed to operate as a spur; and the noise and the pain of these decorations serve to put the horse on his full speed, to which it is further urged by the shouting of the populace. At the sound of the trumpet, (the signal for starting,) even at the approach of the officer who gives the order, the animals exhibit their impatience to be off; and they continue their race, or rather their flight, amidst the screams, plaudits, and vivats of the people of all ranks.

This scene forms the last act of each day's spectacle; when every one is obliged to quit his Carnival habit; for it is only on one or two particular evenings that there is a masked ball at the Aliberti. On Shrove Tuesday the Carnival terminates by a most singular

ion immediately after the horse-race. Not he houses are illuminated, but all persons on their carriages hold lighted tapers; and sit in the cold and wet, with their fingers dripping wax or tallow, according to the ability of the or. After the lapse of an hour, on the promarch of the troops down the Corso, light suddenly disappears, amidst peals of laugh-amentations of regret; till the sounds of the et die away, the crowd disperses, and utter and utter solitude succeed. Every step is now ome, or to the trattoria, where a supper cone epoch of sin and enjoyment. Bile and dys-low, the probationary stages to penitence and to all the gloom and privations of black Lent, in which the sinner expiates by nd flagellation, the pleasures snatched, and committed, during the gay, thoughtless in-the Carnival.

CUSTOMS OF THE SAXONS.

(*From Hodgskin's Travels.*)

most curious custom in Dresden, says Mr. Hodgskin, is that of young lads singing Psalms ys, and feast days, about the town. Several e been bequeathed, for providing a number of are also choristers at the different churches, icked hat, a black scarf, and a suit of new n condition of their entertaining the inhabi- h sacred music. Bands of ten or a dozen, for a leader, march slowly about the town, ping at every second or third house, sing a The shrill, clear voices of the youngsters, in the morning through the streets, though not bear a comparison with the perfect music yal Catholic Chapel, have something in them licity that pleases the untutored ear, nearly the multiplied tones and complex warblings ole royal orchestra.

urn of the Centenary, or the hundredth year,

of the Reformation, was celebrated during the residence of Mr. Hodgskin in Dresden. The festival lasted three days. The churches were all hung with flowers, made into festoons, wreaths, and crowns, according to the taste of the several clergymen. Orange trees, borrowed from the nurseries, and various shrubs and leafy ornaments, were placed in the churches, giving them a very gay and pleasing appearance. Religious worship was performed each day, but the crowd rendered it extremely difficult to get in; even the very porches were full. At the end of three days, a great number of the singers, accompanied by persons carrying torches and pictures of Luther, with banners, on which various mottoes were inscribed, paraded the streets, followed by a great multitude; they came at length to the Old Market, a large clear space, surrounded by houses. Here all the people could assemble, and while the singers formed a circle, and continued singing, all the torches were thrown together, and made a splendid bonfire. The crowd, the houses, and singers, were all distinctly seen by the glare, and nothing seemed wanting but that the whole multitude should join. But as it might be supposed that they could not sing so well as the choristers, the effect of a multitude of voices was sacrificed to a little scientific music. By the last glare of the bonfire the concluding Psalm was sung, and the people retired to their homes. There were no great preparations on the part of the police, and yet there was no quarrel or disturbance. Similar festivals were held all over Germany on this occasion, while medals and pictures of Luther, and the other reformers, were exposed for sale, and many of them were bought and worn. There were medals of silver for the rich, and of baser metals for the poor.

At nearly the same period was celebrated the anniversary of the Battle of Leipsic, the students of the different universities of the whole of Saxony, amounting to about a thousand, assembled at the Wartburg, once the refuge of Luther, here they formed a solemn procession, and burnt the emblems of several things they did not like, such as the tail worn by the Hessian soldiers, the false breasts of the Prussians, an Aus-

arian corporal's stick, the article of the Congress of Vienna, which decreed the partition of Saxony, and some books, among which was the History of the Germans, by Kotzebue. Speeches were made by some of the leaders, and the whole assembly are said to have made vows to die for the freedom of Germany, and to have burnt the hats which they waved as they made these vows, that they might never serve any ignoble purpose.

At Leipsic they commemorated the day in a different manner. They inarched to the field of battle in great numbers, and forming a ring, kneeled down, and celebrated with prayers the victory that had delivered Germany, though it divided their country.

At Dresden Mr. Hodgskin visited a procession of a different nature; it was the funeral of a young lady, attended and followed like a funeral in England; a great number of people were however present, and amongst them all the servants of the family. The hearse was little more than wheels, with a place for the coffin to rest on, over which a handsome pall was thrown. The burying ground was out of the town, near the Elbe, and the soil so sandy, that the grave was boarded up to keep it from filling, before the corpse was deposited. At the moment of interment the lid of the coffin, which had never been screwed down, was lifted off, and the body, the colours just beginning to fade, was showed to the surrounding spectators; it was neatly dressed and ornamented with flowers. This exhibition produced the greatest effect on every spectator, and expressions of grief and agony continued till the coffin was fastened, and the earth covered it for ever.

MARRIAGES OF THE LAPLANDERS.

(From Skioldebrand's Travels.)

THE marriages of the Laplanders are conducted in the following manner. The parents of a young man choose a spouse for him, and on these occasions riches are considered as the only merit. The father, followed by his near kindred, leads him, whether with

his will, or against it, to the tent where the young woman resides whom he has fixed on for a daughter in law, and begins by offering brandy to her father. If he refuses to drink, the whole is over; but if he accepts the liquor, the proposition is made, together with the price which is intended to be paid. This usually consists in so many rein deer, and pieces of silver, &c. During this treaty the young man is bound by decorum to remain out of the hut, where he employs himself in cleaving wood, or rendering some other service to the family of his future spouse. At length he obtains permission to offer her some of the provisions which he has brought with him. At first, she declines them as in duty bound, but at length she comes out of her tent, and the young man follows her. If she then accepts his presents, it is a mark of her consent. Often the negotiation lasts during some years, because it is a settled custom that every visit which the youth makes to his expected father in law, he should bring brandy with him; and as the Laplanders are fond of this spirit, the fathers sometimes prolong their enjoyments by retarding those of the young folks. When going to visit his mistress the lover amuses himself by singing verses, which he composes on his way, and which express his impatience to behold the object of his affections, especially, if it happens that the choice of his parents has coincided with his own inclination. The melody is a wild strain, derived from his fancy. If the marriage does not take place, the quantity of brandy which has been drunk during the negotiation, must be returned in full; but, if the agreement is completed, the price fixed on is immediately paid to the father of the bride. On the wedding day the bride resists with all her might, the proposed expedition to the church, and force is necessary to carry her to it. The wedding dresses are nearly the same as those for holidays. A silver crown attached to the hair, several ribbands which flow over the shoulders and down the back, and a rose of ribbands on the bosom: are the only additional ornaments. At the return from church, the bride's father gives a repast, which is composed in part of provisions brought by the guests. The son-

in-law lives the first year with the father of his wife, after which his own father fetches him away, with his wife, and all his property, which consists mostly in a herd of rein deer. The custom is, that on the birth of a daughter, her father selects a couple of rein deer as her property, and whatever increase these may have belong to her of right, till she quits her father's house. These two deer, if fortunate, may increase to a numerous troop, to which the father adds, according to his ability; when his daughter leaves him he also presents her with kitchen utensils, silver goblets, spoons, &c. All her kindred, also, who have received presents from the bride, are bound to return equivalent on this occasion. In short, the young couple now procure a tent, and commence housekeeping for themselves.

Conjugal fidelity is as scrupulously observed in Lapland, as in any country of Europe, and what has been reported of a community of women has been the mere offspring of invention, or made up by some traveller who has formed his opinion of the whole nation from the conduct of some profligate individuals. The children are brought up to labour, and are taught what may be useful in their future life.

MARRIAGE CUSTOM IN WALES.

ALL our readers are not perhaps aware of the existence of a curious wedding ceremony in the Southern Principality. The bride gathers round her a party of friends on horseback, and being herself mounted upon the best horse she can get, she sets off, pursued by the husband and her party, similarly equipped. When the bridegroom has caught the bride, he becomes entitled to espouse her. These races are more or less numerously attended, according to the respect in which the parties are held; and are sometimes obstinately prolonged. Even after the bride is caught, the race continues for the prize, which is some mark of distinction given to the winner. One of these marriages took place last week, at Merthyr Cynog, to the great entertainment of that part of the county of Monmouth. *One*

*hundred and fifty horses had a race of twenty three miles, at full gallop: during the whole of which distance the bride was one of the foremost: and was captured with much difficulty by the bridegroom. The race was at last won by a grey mare, and as our informant says, none of the deaderest. —*Sheffield Independent, Jan., 1895.**

SHREWSBURY SHOW.

“ON the Thursday following Whitsunday, (says Mr. Phillips in his History of Shrewsbury) it was the custom of this town, as appears by the Freambles to several of the Companies' Charters, for the respective incorporative Companies, preceded by the Masters and Wardens, to attend the Bailiffs, Aldermen, and Commonalty, to St. Chad's Church, with the colours and devices belonging, and suited to each company or craft.

In this Procession the Holy Sacrament was borne under a rich canopy, supported by Priests, and after hearing Mass, the whole of the company returned from church, keeping the respective places assigned them; the parties being subject to a fine for non-attendance, or non-observance of order.

Upon several incorporate Companies, it was obligatory to provide certain necessities for the Procession, such as wax-candles, &c. which were carried before the Host, and afterwards placed before the Holy Altar of St. Michael the Archangel, in St. Chad's Church.

This Procession was on the Thursday before that Monday, on which the Show or Procession is now held; and the Days of Entertainment, or as they are called in the Charters, the Days of Disport and Recreation for the several Companies, were at some other time, fixed by the Masters or Wardens.

It seems probable that this Procession was continued in the manner above related, until the time of Reformation from Popery, when the Salopians, though prohibited from attending Mass, yet were determined to retain as much of the ceremony as they could, and accordingly fixed upon the Monday following *Corpus Christi*, for their Procession, and chose an entertainment at Kings-

land for their bodies, in lieu of assembling before the Altar of St. Michael the Archangel, to pray for their souls.

The most probable reasons why the Day was changed from Thursday, to the Monday following, seem to be these; though prohibited going to church on that Day to hear Mass, they might think it improper to observe it as a day of recreation; and also Coventry Show and Fair, falling always on the following day, (Friday) many of the inhabitants attended there, and many in the country round about, were prevented coming here."

For the following description of this ancient custom, as exhibited on Monday, June 6th, 1825, we are indebted to the Shrewsbury Chronicle of the Friday following.

"SHREWSBURY SHOW was exhibited on Monday in rather better style than of late years. The weather was favourable; the tradesmen were in a great measure unanimous; the country-folks attended in multitudes, decked out in all the gaiety and variety of summer. About half-past one the "trades" had mustered in Raven-street, and shortly after they proceeded to Kingsland in the following order:

AT THE HEAD OF THE PROCESSION CAME THE

Shoemakers—Preceded by Crispianus dressed in the uniform of an officer "sixty years since," with sword and gorget; his cocked hat ornamented with a bouquet of blue and white ribbons; by his side Crispin in a leather surtout, with his mace surmounted by the boot, their horses led by their 'squires, and preceded by a halberdier.—Next came the

Tailors—Preceded by three Antiques, bearing two bodkins, each half-a-yard in length, with shields, the third carrying a battle-axe.

Butchers—The Masters' procession was headed by two men with swords and shields; the Apprentices by the King, with a lofty cap of every-coloured feathers, his chaplet enriched with thousands of trinkets; a cleaver in his hand surmounted by a griffin; his horse covered with net-work and led by a squire; the boys dressed in white frocks.

Bricklayers—His Majesty, "Henry the Eighth," preceded this Company, his face covered with a pot full

of red raddle, and a pair of monstrous black-lead mustachoes; dressed in a gorgeous blue puffed robe, with scarlet mantle, his rotundity kept from bursting by a richly embroidered waistcoat, his hat bordered with ermine, and a plume of white feathers; a sceptre in his hand, his horse led; the Apprentices were preceded by a King dressed in white, a profusion of sashes and belts, with "God save the King" inscribed on a sash over his shoulder, his cap ornamented with blue, white, and green feathers, his horse caparisoned and led.

Apprentice Smiths, &c.—The King, with a beautiful crown bordered with ermine, a noble plume of feathers; the robes white, with red and black sashes. Before him came the Chancellor, carrying the crown, attended by two beef-eaters, with swords and shields; and a Vulcan, smoking hot from the forge, armed with a blunderbuss, which he fired off at intervals, to the great terror of all the old women.

Hairdressers.—The Queen, seated on her grey horse, and led by a groom. Her long flowing robe of white, ornamented with blue drapery, and bordered with knots of crimson and green; her gown of white silk gauze, ornamented with sixteen rows of pink, and a plume of crimson and white feathers.

Painters, Saddlers, Booksellers, &c.—The Apprentices preceded by "Cupid" on horseback; his plume of white feathers, his dress white, with blue sash; in his hand the pallet and brushes; his horse led by two pages. The Masters (a numerous company of whom were present) preceded as usual by the horse gaily caparisoned, with blue tapestry saddle cloth, and led by a groom.

In this order (each trade having its music, and its banners) the procession marched through the Town. The Hon. and Rev. Richard Hill, the Mayor, attended by a respectable party of the Corporation and Gentlemen of the Town and Neighbourhood, set out from the Town-Hall about 2 o'clock, and were greeted with great applause on their arrival at Kingsland.

The crowd on Kingsland, throughout the whole of the day, was great; and various were the means provided for their entertainment. "Ups-and-Downs,"—"Jerry-go-Rounds,"—"Rowley-Powleys,"—and sundry other

any matters, afforded fun to the juveniles; whilst who could muster "the matter o' three-pence," "rationally entertained" (so said the Managers) Fight and Slack Rope Dancing,—Crocodiles,—ts,—small Women,—large Children,—Hocus—Punch and his Family,—and a host of other delectable entertainments. Of Gingerbread-Flying-Stationers, &c. there was no lack, and a peep-Show of the Murder of Mr. Weare by Ill and Hunt, "one of the most beautifullest (said the Showman) as ever was seen" attracted share of customers! Towards evening the first for retiring was given by a smart shower of rain, then began the publicans' harvest:—their tents rammed, and it seemed a hard task to be able to their customers fast enough, with the varied which they had provided. Soon after this, the Corporation having visited all the Arbours, for the town, followed by the different trades, set of the visitors departed at the same time."

CUSTOMS OF LANCASHIRE

THIRTY YEARS AGO.

(*The Editor.*)

THE feelings of indescribable pleasure the Editor of this work calls to his remembrance various scenes and scenes familiar to the early years of his life. Still present is the delight with which he recollects the approach of May-day morning, when a company of the musical Rustics of Worsley and Bury, near Manchester, would assemble at midnight to perform the grateful task of saluting their neighbours with the sound of the Clarionet, Hautboy, German Flute, Violin, and the melody of a dozen voices. On this occasion the leader of the band would commence his song under the window or before the outer door of the family "he delighted to honour" with

Up Master of this House, all in your chain of gold,
The Summer springs so fresh, green and gay,
You'll not be angry at us for being so bold,
Being near to the merry month of May."

In this strain, including some encomiums or happy allusion to the various qualifications of the mistress and other branches of the family the whole were related: after which a purse of silver or a few mugs of good ale were distributed among the company; then they proceeded from house to house, filling the air with their music and happy voices, till six o'clock in the morning.

Another custom was for the lads of the villages on May-day-eve, to compliment their sweethearts, and ladies whom they knew, by decorating their doors or the eaves of their dwellings with May flowers or boughs of trees emblematical of affection, or some good quality the lady was supposed to possess; for instance, a Birch for a pretty wench, an Oak for the lover of a jute or a merry girl, &c. Sometimes these compliments were of a rougher cast, as the Hazel Nut for a dirty slut, the Alder (pronounced Owler) for a scolder, or the Willow Green for a forsaken queen. Much amusement was derived from the bustle the ladies would make to have any unwelcome emblems removed before the neighbourhood was apprised of the supposed degradation.

One of the most laughable and amusing customs was observed at Easter, when the young men and young women would disguise themselves in the most fantastic and ridiculous habits, and go from house to house a "Peace Egging" or begging eggs; the most respectable farmers' sons or daughters would indulge in this custom, and very often no mean display of humour and wit was to be met with among these masked rustics. All spirits flowed buoyantly and in unison, while a good song was frequently given in return for the convivial glass of the generous farmer.

The MARRIAGES of the Weavers and other Mechanics were at that period of the most joyous description. A young couple intending to be married would invite their acquaintance for miles round to attend them to church, and to dine with them at a neighbouring inn, after the ceremony. The editor has seen a couple attended by three hundred young men and women; ribbons streaming from the hats of the youths and waving on the bosoms of the maids. Now all this was no burden to the Nuptial pair, every guest paid his own

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expenses at the inn, and the married couple were totally exempt. Fiddling and dancing finished the joyous meeting; and many future matches were often the consequence of the celebration.

Their FUNERALS were also most numerous attended, especially among the Colliers of Walkdenmoor, near Worsley, and in the whole Parish of Eccles. No invitation whatever was necessary on these occasions, every one went who felt the slightest regard for the deceased, or indeed who wished for a holiday: from one to three hundred was no uncommon attendance.

Various other customs we could revert to as peculiar to that part of the country; many of them now in total disuse; partly occasioned by depression of trade during the late war, and the consequent poverty of the Lancashire weavers and other artisans, by which their native energies, cheerfulness, and happiness, have been nearly annihilated; and many of them, even at this moment of peace and prosperity scarcely earn sufficient to render life desirable.

RARE PHENOMENA OF NATURE.

AEROLITES, OR METEORIC STONES.

(*From Mitchell's Dictionary of Chemistry & Mineralogy*)

AEROLITES, or Meteoric stones, are compounds of earthy and mineral substances, which have at different times fallen from the atmosphere to the earth. Numerous instances were recorded in Livy and Pliny, as well as in other ancient authors, and many instances were recorded in later writers, and from time to time accounts were given to the world of stones having been seen to descend from the air; but such was the incredulity of those who affected to be wiser than the rest of mankind, that these numerous and well-authenticated events were attributed to the influence of deception and vulgar superstition. At last, however, philosophical scepticism was compelled to give way, and this was, in no small degree, owing

to the valuable labours of an English cultivator of science, to which we are indebted for the following notices of this extraordinary Phenomenon.

823. A.D. A shower of pebbles in Saxony,

998. Two stones fell, one near the Elbe, and the other in the town of Magdeburg.—*Cosmas and Spagenberg.*

1198. A stone fell near Paris.

Thirteenth Century. A stone fell at Wurzburg.—*Schottus, Phys. Cur.*

Between 1251 and 1363, Stones fell at Wellxoi-Using in Russia.—*Gilbert's Annal.* tom. 35.

1438. A shower of spongy stones at Roa, near Burgos in Spain.—*Proust.*

1492, Nov. 7. A stone of 260 lb. fell at Ensisheim near Sturgau, in Alsace. It is now in the library of Colmar, and has been reduced to 150 lb.—*Trithemius, Hirsang. Annal. Conrad Gesner, Liber de Rerum Fossilium Figuris*, cap. 3.

1559. Two large stones, as large as a man's head, fell at Miscoitz in Hungary, which are said to be preserved in the Treasury at Vienna.—*Schwann.*

1581, July 26. A stone, 39lb. weight, fell in Thuringia: it was so hot that no person could touch it.—*Binhard, Olearius.*

1622, Jan. 10. A stone fell in Devonshire.—*Ramp.*

1628, April 9. Stones fell near Hartford in Berkshire; one of them weighed 24 lb.—*Gent. Mag.* Dec. 1796.

1637, Nov. 29. Gassendi says a stone of a black metallic colour, fell on Mount Vaision, between Guillaume and Perne in Provence. It weighed 54 lb. and had the size and shape of the human head. Its specific gravity was 3.5.—*Gassendi, Opera*, p. 96 Lyons, 1658.

A small stone fell at Milan, and killed a Franciscan.—*Museum Septialianum*,

1668, June 19, or 21. Two stones, one 300 lb. and the other 200 lb. weight, fell near Verona.—*Legatlois, Conversations, &c.* Paris, 1672, *Valimieri, Opere*, ii. p. 64, 66. *Montanan* and *Francisco Carli*, who published a letter, containing several curious notices respecting the fall of stones from the heavens.

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16. Two masses of iron of 71 lb. and 16 lb. district of Agram, the capital of Croatia. One of these is now in Vienna.

1. Stones fell near Beccles in England. — *Post.*

14. A great shower of stones fell at Barroquefort, in the vicinity of Bourdeaux. One 5 inches in diameter, penetrated a hut, killed a herdsman and a bullock. Some of the weighed 25 lb. and others 30 lb. — *Lancet.*

13. A large stone weighing 55 lb. fell at Cottage in Yorkshire. No light accompaniment. — *Gent Mag.* 1796.

5. A stone fell at Possil, near Glasgow.

10. A shower of stones fell near Thoulouze.

15. A stone the size of a child's head, fell at Leben. A specimen of it is in the possession of Hussman of Brunswick. — *Gilbert's* and xli.

14. Stones fell at Cutro in Calabria, dust fall of red dust. — *Bibl. Brit.* Oct, 1813, 9 and 10. Several stones, one of which weighed 1 lb. fell near Limerick in Ireland. — *Phil.*

It is, perhaps, any thing in the history of extraordinary and curious than the fall of stones from the air; and the attention of chemists directed to analyse them, to ascertain what they are composed of. They have been found to consist of the same component parts; and are independent in their formation, and distinct substances contained in the neighbourhood where they have fallen.

In instances where authentic accounts have been given of aerolites, there has been a luminous shooting with a loud noise immediately preceding the fall, and this has been supposed to be the case with the stones, also, if they were handled soon after the fall, were found to be hot. This has induced

the list is entirely confined to Europe.

This is not the only accident that happened to the Severn ; for near the grove, the channel, which was chiefly of a soft blue rock, burst in ten thousand pieces, and rose perpendicularly about ten yards, heaving up the immense quantity of water, and the shoals of fishes that were therein. Among the rubbish at the bottom of the river, which was very deep in that place, there were one or two huge stones, and a large piece of timber, or an oak tree which from time immemorial had lain partly buried in the mud, I suppose in consequence of some flood. The stones and the tree were thrown up, as if they had been only a pebble and a stick, and are now at some distance from the river, many feet higher than the surface of it.

Ascending from the ruins of the road, I came to those of a barn, which, after travelling many yards towards the river, had been absorbed in a chasm, where the shattered roof was yet visible. Next to those remains of the barn, and partly parallel to the river, was a long hedge, which had been torn from a part of it yet adjoining to the garden hedge, and had been removed above forty yards downward, together with some large trees that were in it, and the land that it enclosed.

The tossing, tearing, and shifting of so many acres of land below, was attended with the formation of stupendous chasms above.

At some distance above, near the wood which crowns the desolated spot, another chasm, or rather a complication of chasms, excited my admiration. It is an assemblage of chasms, one of which, that seems to terminate the desolation to the north east, runs some hundred yards towards the river and Madeley wood ; it looked like the deep channel of some great serpentine river dried up, whose little islands, fords, and hollows, appear without a watery veil.

This long chasm at the top, seems to be made up of two or three, that run into each other. And their conjunction, when it is viewed from a particular point, exhibits the appearance of a ruined fortress, whose ramparts have been blown up by mines that have done dreadful execution, and yet have spared here and there a pyramid of earth, or a shattered tower, by which the

spectators can judge of the nature and solidity of the demolished bulwark.

Fortunately there was on the devoted spot but one house, inhabited by two poor countrymen and their families. It stands yet, tho' it has removed about a yard from its former situation. The morning in which the desolation happened, Samuel Wilcocks, one of those countrymen, got up about 4 o'clock, and opening the window to see if the weather was fair, he took notice of a small crack in the earth, about four or five inches wide; and observed the above mentioned field of corn, heaving up and rolling about like the waves of the sea. The trees, by the motion of the ground, waved also as if they had been blown with the wind, tho' the air was calm and serene. And the river Severn, which for some days had overflowed its banks, was also very much agitated, and seemed to run back to its source. The man being astonished at such a sight, rubbed his eyes, supposing himself not quite awake; but being soon convinced that destruction stalked about, he alarmed his wife, and taking their children in their arms, they went out of the house as fast as they could, accompanied by the other man and his wife. A kind Providence directed their flight; for instead of running eastward, across the fields that were just going to be overthrown, they fled westward, into a wood that had little share in the desolation.

When they were about twenty yards from the house, they perceived a great crack run very quick up the ground from the river. Immediately the land behind them, with the trees and hedges, moved towards the Severn, with great swiftness and an uncommon noise, which Samuel Wilcocks compared to a large flock of sheep running swiftly by him.

It was then chiefly, that desolation expanded her wings over the devoted spot, and the Birches saw a momentary representation of a partial chaos:—Then Nature seemed to have forgotten her laws:—The opening earth swallowed in a gliding barn:—Trees commenced itinerant: those that were at a distance from the river, advanced towards it, while the submerged oak, broke out of its watery confinement, and by rising many

feet recovered a place on dry land :—The solid rock swept away, as its dust had been in a stormy day. Then probably the rocky bottom of the Severn on pushing towards heaven astonished shoals of fish, hegsheads of water innumerable :—The wood, the embattled body of vegetable combatants, storm bed of the overflowing river; and triumphantly its green colours over the recoiling flood :—Fields came moveables; nay, they fled when none put and as they fled, they rent the green carpets that ed them in a thousand pieces.—In a word, dry is hibited the dreadful appearance of a sea-storm : earth, as if it had acquired the fluidity of water, t herself into massy waves, which rose or sunk at the of him who raised the tempest.—And, what is astonishing, the stupendous hollow of one of those v ran for near a quarter of a mile thro' rocks and a soil, with as much ease as if dry earth, stones, and had been a part of the liquid element.

Soon after the river was stopt, Samuel Cook farmer who lives about a quarter of a mile below Birches, on the same side of the river, was muc rified by a gust of wind, that beat against his wj as if shot had been thrown against it : but his greatly increased, when getting up to see if the that was over his ground, had abated, he perceiv all the water was gone from his fields, and that any remained in the Severn. He called up his f ran to the river; and finding that it was damm be made the best of his way to alarm the inhabit Buildwas, the next village above, which, he sup would soon be under water.

He was happily mistaken. Providence just pr a way for their escape. The Severn, notwithstan considerable flood, which at that time rendered it rapid and powerful, having met with two d shoals, the one from her rising bed, and the othe the intruding wood, could do nothing but foam an back with impetuosity. The ascending and desc streams conflicted some time about Buildwas b The river sensibly rose for some miles back, an tinued rising till just as it was near entering in

houses at Buildwas, it got a vent thro' the fields on the right ; and after spreading far and near over them, collected all its might to assault its powerful aggressor, I mean the grove, that had so unexpectedly turned it out of the bed, which it had enjoyed for countless ages. Sharp was the attack, but the resistance was yet more vigorous ; and the Severn, repelled again and again, was obliged to seek its old empty bed, by going the shortest way to the right ; and the moment it found it again, it precipitated therein with a dreadful roar, and for a time formed a considerable cataract ; with inconceivable fury [as if it wanted to be revenged on the first thing that came in its way] began to tear, and wash away a fine rich meadow opposite to the grove ; and there, in a few hours, worked itself a new channel about three hundred yards long, thro' which a barge from Shrewsbury ventured three or four days after.

All wonder at the strangeness of the overthrow : some ascribe it to an earthquake ; others to a slip of the ground ; and not a few remain neuter, confessing that providence has conducted this phenomenon in such a manner, as to confound the wisdom of the wise, and force even philosophers to adore in silence the God of nature, *whose ways are past finding out, who giveth not always account of his matters*, and who perhaps strikes an ambiguous blow, to convince us that the bow of his righteous vengeance has more than one string, and that *it to say nothing of the other elements* our mother earth may every hour afford us an untimely grave, either by the slipping of her back, or by the convulsion of her bowels.

My employment and taste leading me more to search out the mysteries of heaven, than to scrutinize the phenomena of the earth ; and to point at the wonders of grace, than at those of nature ; I leave the decision of the question about the slip and the earthquake to some abler philosopher."

THE MINSTERLEY INUNDATION.

THIS extraordinary flood happened on the evening of May 27th, 1811. the following interesting account is from the *Shrewsbury Chronicle* of the Friday following.

"On Monday afternoon a violent storm of hail, thunder and lightning, was widely felt, particularly S.W. of the town of Shrewsbury. The air was sultry, the lightning very vivid, and the thunder is described, by persons near Minsterley, to have been similar to the report of many cannon immediately over their heads: near the White Grit, hailstones two inches in circumference, lay almost a foot deep. About five o'clock in the afternoon, a cloud burst upon the ridge of hills called the Stiperstones, and a torrent of water, with irresistible force, and thundering sound, rushing down the hill side, swept away several cottages belonging to the White Grit miners. Part of the vast body of water took a direction through Habberley, but the greatest quantity pursued its course along the valley through which runs Minsterley Brook. From the vicinity of Mr. Nailor's of Hoxton Mills, buildings and every thing in its way were overwhelmed; and our readers may form some idea of the bulk and impetuosity of the torrent, when they are told, that among many others which it tore up by the roots, one tree, containing about 80 feet of timber, was floated over meadows more than a mile.

"Between 5 and 6 o'clock the deluge reached Minsterley, flooding almost every house in the village. Mr. Vaughan, a farmer, was swept away from his fold, and carried several hundred yards through the bridge, where the current threw him upon a pigstie, from whence he climbed to the roof of a house and was saved: his sister was carried a great distance and left in the branches of a tree; but so much bruised that she is not expected to survive; not a trace is left of his thrashing machine, or stabling; but five horses escaped. Thirteen persons were miraculously saved in the Angel public house: on the first alarm they ran up stairs, and when the water had reached the second story, they clung to the

rafters. The stabling, with all other contiguous buildings, were swept away. In the stables were 17 horses, and they swam out. The stables of the Rev. Mr. Williams, and part of the church wall, are also carried away. The persons who perished in this village were, Mr. Hoggins, a farmer; Holmes, a labourer, and another person.

"The next scene of desolation was Pontesford, where it is enough to mention its ravages only at one spot. At Mr. Heighway's it burst into the house through the windows, till at length the walls gave way, and Mr. H's venerable grandmother, aged 83, with two female servants and a labourer, were hurried into the abyss. Meanwhile Mr. Heighway's wife and another lady climbed upon the roof of the house, from whence they beheld Mr. H. clinging to a pole, and was lifted by two men upon the bridge about 30 yards distant. Mr. Bennett, an overseer of Pontesbury coal works, and two others, got into a hay loft, where deeming themselves secure, they were in the act of petitioning the Almighty to deliver the persons upon the bridge, part of which had just fell in; when instantly the building was swept away, and the unfortunate men were all lost. The bodies of these men were not found yesterday. The loss of Mr. Heighway, it is supposed, will exceed £4000. Nearly the whole of his house, except the end on which his wife and her companion were saved, is destroyed, together with the furniture, stabling, barns, sheds, two valuable horses, tan-pits, hides, bark, &c.; and every tree is torn away from his orchard. At this place the water was at least twenty feet deep.

"At Minsterley, the water was from 6 to 8 feet deep in some houses: the house and mill at Plott's Green were carried away.

"At Hanwood the damage done in the linen mills of Marshall, Atkinson, and Co. is considerable. The stocks of flour and the premises belonging to Mr. Blower, and Mr. Pickering, have sustained great injury; and indeed it may be said, that every bridge and mill within the course of the torrent, has either been destroyed or greatly damaged. Mr. Warters, of Cruck Meole, had one cow carried away, and Mr. Rogers another.

"The torrent following the course of Meole Brook, reached Coleham, one of the suburbs of this town, about half-past ten o'clock at night, with a tremendous roaring noise. The cellars and lower rooms belonging to the Seven Stars public house, and all the houses adjoining were deluged: the street in front of Mr. Hubbert's Factory * was inundated to the depth of nearly three feet by an instantaneous gush. At this time the noise of the current was inconceivably dreadful, and the cries of "Help! Help!"—"Drowning!" &c. contributed to the horror of the sound. The force of this great body of water rushing into the Severn from Meole Brook, actually turned the current of the river Severn, which rose near the English Bridge, four feet perpendicular in less than ten minutes. Much damage has been done at the Abbey mill, and in the garden

* The Editor of this Museum can never forget the alarm which the above circumstance excited in his own family and neighbourhood, so extraordinary a phenomenon as a flood in the river Severn in a time of drought; the houses of his neighbours completely inundated, and all in a few minutes of time; the roaring of the flood forcing its way from Meole Brook to the Severn, the cries and lamentations of the cottagers, many of whom supposed the world at an end, and that all were to be swept away by a second deluge; the strange appearance of men and women just tumbled out of their beds, partly dressed and undressed, many in the act of removing their furniture, others having their children on their backs to go they knew not whither, was altogether a scene at once terrific, romantic and ridiculous.

A few days after the calamity above mentioned had happened, the Editor in company with the late Mr. Brocas and Mr. Watton, both of Shrewsbury, visited the chief places of suffering, and was at Pontesbury at the moment several of the unfortunate victims were consigned to their graves. The effect was melancholy and lasting.

contiguous- The force of the torrent running under Coleham bridge, carried with it a portion of the field occupied by Mr. Birch, by which several hundred square yards of ground will be lost to the owner.

"The number of lives lost amount to nine at Pontesford, and three at Minsterley. Yesterday, the coroner (Mr. Wollaston, of Bishop's Castle,) and a jury, assembled to view the bodies that have been found, in order that the friends of the unfortunate individuals might pay the last duty of mournful affection.

"Ours is but a faint description of the calamity and distress which have been felt. Unaccustomed as we are in this inland situation, to such scenes, no imagination can picture the desolation. It is impossible to calculate the amount of property damaged and destroyed; many hundred thousands of pounds cannot recall order, and redeem the destruction to agriculture and property of every kind. We have heard it said, that in the parishes of Pontesbury, Worthen, and Westbury, at least three thousand acres of land were deluged, The number of cottages lost has not been ascertained; and who shall tell the anguish of many a peasant, whose family is now perhaps homeless, and whose garden ground is laid desolate."

In this instance, the benevolence of Salopians was unbounded; the sum of £1,862 was subscribed, leaving £514 14s, over and above the liberal aid afforded to such sufferers as were known to require it, or who applied for relief.

MECHANICAL INVENTIONS & DISCOVERIES

PECULIAR TO EUROPE.

THE STEAM ENGINE.

(Various Authorities.)

OF the thousands of Inventions peculiar to Europe, the Steam Engine stands pre-eminent. Previous to entering on the History of this Sovereign of Machines, we shall present our readers with a familiar illustration of its nature and principles. Let us then in the first place imagine a common Pump prepared, such as we

use every day, and that we want to move the handle of this pump upwards, by the force of steam only. In the first place it must be so contrived, as that the handle or something joining to it, may go into the barrel of a gun, or some hollow tube, set upright over a boiling cauldron, so that the steam may be let into the tube at pleasure, through the touch-hole. As the fire begins to dilate the steam, a part of it will enter the tube at the touch-hole, and this will press up the pump handle, which fills the tube exactly, and would drive it out at the mouth, but by the time it rises near to the top of the tube, a valve opens and throws in a little cold water, and this destroys the steam at once; and thus it sinks to the bottom of the barrel, and leaves it perfectly empty. The air, therefore, without will now come into play, and press down the handle again into the empty tube, into which no steam is permitted to enter, being prevented by a valve that shuts and stops up the touch-hole below; but when the handle is thus pressed down, this valve opens again and new steam enters, whereby the handle is raised up near to the top as before, &c.; and thus it is alternately pressed down and raised up, working the pump with unremitting assiduity and uniformity.

The most interesting and pleasing article we have met with on the subject of the Steam Engine, is in No. 280, of the Literary Chronicle, article Review of Stuart's History of the Steam Engine.

"The author of the descriptive History of the Steam Engine (says the Editor of the Literary Chronicle) has adopted for his epigraph, an observation which is incontrovertible, namely, that 'it must be acknowledged that this is the most wonderful of all machines, and that nothing of the work of man approaches so near to animal life;' we might almost go farther, and compare it to the elements, for, in some of its operations, it seems to go beyond all the combinations of human power, and, in its effect, rather to resemble the rushing wind or the overwhelming torrent; with this difference, that it is the creature of man's will and subservient to his use, while the others obey no master, but he who—

"Sits in the whirlwind and directs the storm."

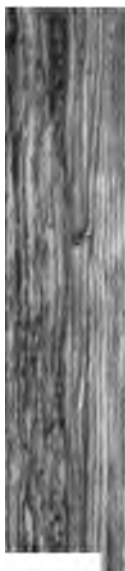
"The steam engine," as an able writer* well observes, "is not only capable of being applied to the finest and most delicate manufactures, but its power can be so increased as to set weight and solidity at defiance. 'The trunk of an elephant, that can pick up a pin and rend an oak, is as nothing to it. It can engrave a seal and crush masses of obdurate metal before it; draw out, without breaking, a thread as fine as gossamer, and lift a ship of war like a bauble in the air. It can embroider muslin and forge anchors, cut steel into ribands, and impel loaded vessels against the fury of the winds and waves.'

All this and a thousand things more can be accomplished by the steam-engine, and, indeed, it is difficult to fix the limits of its power, or the variety and extent of its application. M. Dupin, an ingenious Frenchman, who has none of the prejudices of his countrymen, has made a calculation, which shows, in a most astonishing degree, the power of the steam engine, and the immense mechanical force put in action by it in Great Britain. The great pyramid of Egypt required, for its erection, the labour of above one hundred thousand men for twenty years; but, if it were required again to raise the stones from the quarries and place them at their present height, the action of the steam engines of Great Britain, which are managed at most by thirty-six thousand men, would be sufficient to produce the effect in eighteen hours. M. Dupin adds, that the cutting of the stones and removing them from the quarry to the pyramid would be the work of a few days only.

We need not, however, have quoted these authorities to show the power of the steam engine, and the consequent importance of its history, which is so ably exhibited by Mr. Stuart.

"Twenty years ago, (says Mr. S.) Hornblower remarked, "that the most vulgar stoker may turn up his nose at the acutest mathematician in the world, for (in the action and construction of steam engines) there are cases in which the higher powers of the human mind must bend to mere mechanical instinct;" and the observation applies with greater force now than it did then.

* Francis Jeffrey, Esq.



ever had any thing to do in the matter. the hands of all the philosophers who and it again must become a toy before of Bosquet, the ablest and latest of the have written on the subject, can be m it. Indeed there is no machine or met the little that theorists have done is m honour of bringing it to its present st therefore, belongs to a different and n It arose, was improved and perfected, chancies—and by them only; for traditi to us the fact of Savery having begun miner; Newcomen was a blacksmith, Cawley a glazier; Don Ricardo Trevi operative mechanic; and so was the when he began and after he had mad provements.'

For many years the Marquis of V credit of being the first to suggest the engine, in his *Century of Inventions* of the marquis, who was no doubt a ma ingenuity, has however, been of some the merit of originality does not rest the application of steam to generate to have been made by a Greek mec years before Christ, or nearly two ago. To Hero the Elder, who flouri this, in the reign of Ptolemy Philadelph

No other notice of steam, as a first mover, occurs in the works of ancient authors, nor in modern writers, until about the year 1663, when one Mathesius, in a volume of sermons, entitled *Sarepta*, hints at the possibility of constructing an apparatus similar in its operation and properties to those of the modern steam-engine:—

‘About thirty years after this period, what is called a “Whirling Oelipile,” is described in a book printed at Leipsig, wherein it is stated to be exceedingly well adapted to the purpose of turning the spit for the cook. And among other economical reasons urged for its adoption, is that “it eats nothing, and gives withal an assurance to those partaking of the feast, whose suspicious natures nurse queasy appetites, that the haunch has not been pawed by the turnspit (in the absence of the housewife’s eye,) for the pleasure of licking his unclean fingers.”

Solomon de Caus, an eminent French engineer and mathematician, in 1624, describes an engine acting by the elasticity of steam:—

‘The first person in modern times who applied the expansive power of steam on any scale to a useful practical purpose, was Giovanni Branca, an eminent Italian mathematician, who resided at Rome in the beginning of the seventeenth century. His contrivance was an oelipile, from which steam issued, upon a wheel formed with flat-boards or vanes, like a water-wheel or wind-mill, and thus produced a rotatory movement. This wheel, by some intermediate mechanism, gave motion to the stampers of a mill for pounding drugs.’

‘It is on account of this contrivance that Branca is considered by his countrymen to be the inventor of the steam engine; and even in a recent English work on the subject, he is allowed the merit of a first idea. To this he certainly has no claim; neither can his engine be compared with Hero’s for its ingenuity, nor to De Caus’s for its efficiency. Besides, long before this period, the same mechanism was described by Cardan as moved by the “vapour from fire.” And the mere substitution of steam by the Italian philosopher is not so original or important, as to give to the transition the

rank of an invention. Branca was, however, a man of much ingenuity, and many of his machines are highly creditable to his abilities as a scientific mechanic.

It is not our intention to trace the progress of the steam engine, since it can only be well done by consulting Mr. Stuart's book, and referring to the excellent and numerous wood engravings which illustrate the subject. The Marquis of Worcester's claim, as inventor of the steam-engine, is, as will be seen, satisfactorily enough refuted, and his claims to national patronage treated somewhat uncereemoniously. The marquis's work was printed in 1663, and, twenty years afterwards, we find Sir Samuel Morland applying to the French government to patronize a scheme, which he claims as his own, for raising water by the force of steam. Sir Samuel was the first accurate experimenter on the elastic force of steam; and it is highly honourable to his mechanical accuracy, that his estimate of the rate of expansion of water, when converted into steam, should coincide with that given by an experienced engineer in the most recent book on the subject.

Mr. Stuart vindicates Capt. Savery from the charge made by Desaguliers, of having constructed his engine from the hints of the Marquis of Worcester; he also gives several engravings of Savery's engine, complete and in sections, and clearly points out the great ingenuity of the inventor. Numerous improvements were made on the steam engine, but it was reserved to Mr. Watt to render it capable of extensive application, and the history of this machine, for the last half-century is the history of his life; as the most important period is the history of the steam-engine.

In 1759, Dr. Robison proposed to apply the steam-engine to move carriages; and, in 1802, it was carried into effect by Messrs. Vivian and Trevithick, who 'produced a steam-engine of pre-eminent merit and ingenuity.'

'The experiment of moving carriages was successful, and, in 1804, one of these locomotive engines was in use in a mine at Merthyr Tydvil, in South Wales, and drew as many carriages as contained about ten tons and a half of iron, travelling at the rate of five miles and

a half an hour, for a distance of nine miles, without any additional water being required during the time of its journey;—its cylinder was eight inches diameter, and the piston had a four-foot stroke. The same engine, employed to raise water, worked a pump of eighteen inches and a half diameter and four feet and a half stroke, raising it twenty-eight feet high, and made eighteen strokes in a minute; it used eighty pounds weight of coal an hour, and in the same time it raised 15,875,160 pounds weight of water one foot high; the pressure being sixty-five pounds on each square inch of the piston.

The application of the steam Engine to the purposes of Navigation promises the most important results.—Every day adds some new proof of the grandeur and utility of the invention.

Messrs. Marshall, (late Marshall, Atkinson & Co. of Shrewsbury) have erected at their patent Thread and Linen Manufactory, in Shrewsbury, two of Fenton and Murray's low pressure Engines, the one of sixty, and the other of fifty-six horses power. The exhausting pipes of the latter are so beautifully constructed as to have the appearance of a Doric Portico. These Engines give motion to innumerable machines for preparing the flax, and nearly 5000 spindles are in daily work, giving employment to upwards of 500 hands.

Messrs. Ives and Atkinson, formerly of the above firm, have recently erected at their new establishment in Leeds, one of the most complete Engines in the kingdom. The whole of their machinery is of the highest class.

COTTON MACHINERY.

(Editor chiefly.)

ABOUT sixty years since, the Society of Arts, to whose exertions Britain is so much indebted, sensible of the importance of the abbreviation of human labour by machinery, proposed præmia for any application of mill-machinery which would enable a single person, in spinning, weaving, &c. to perform the work of several. Various attempts were, of course, made to

achieve this invention, and to employ it in the manufacture of cottons. They were for a while but imperfectly successful, until the spinning jenny was invented. This at first excited the jealousy of the workmen, who imagined that many of their number would be left without wages and employment, when the use of such machines should enable a single person to perform what was the task of more. At length sir Richard Arkwright,† of Cromford, Derbyshire, after several failures in the trial, and some loss, succeeded in establishing a manufactory of cotton-yarn, in which the distribution of power by cranks, from the movement of mill-machinery, performed for many spindles at once almost the whole labour of spinning the yarn. From this era, the manufacture of cotton goods was destined to increase into one of the most lucrative and extensive branches of

† The celebrated Sir Richard Arkwright, of whom false pride and prejudice alone can think it derogatory to say, that he passed a great part of his life in the humble station of a barber in the town of Bolton. His mind was so ardently engaged in the improvements of the mechanism used in the manufactures, that he could scarcely keep himself above want by the exercise of his proper profession; but his perseverance and ingenuity were at length rewarded with a measure of opulence which nothing but the full tide of prosperity in a commercial nation could bestow.—*Aikin's Manchester*.

A writer in the *Mechanic's Magazine* says "a poor illiterate cabinet-maker of the name of Brown, a fellow of infinite genius, and most excellent fancy, and perhaps equal as a mechanist to any one in the country: from him, in the course of a barber-shop gossip, and familiarity, Sir Richard Arkwright extorted and heard the *basis* of the *invention*, and by superior cunning and hardihood, set about it, gained the profits and the credit for *ingenuity* which he never possessed !

Brown is still in existence in some obscure part of London, a living instance of neglected genius!"

[Can this be true? Surely he has only to make himself known.—EDIT. M. M.]

British industry. The raw cotton was to be purchased at a very low price. It was, in consequence of this new invention, spun into yarn, at an expence even cheaper than that for which yarn was prepared in India. Weaving establishments for cotton stuffs were, hence, extended with the greatest rapidity. Lawns, cambrics, linens, silks, various fabrics of woollen, mixtures of linen and woollen in the same fabric, gave place to fabrics of cotton. The more these cotton stuffs were used, so much the more did they come into general favour. Every act in the manufacture of cotton came to be, in one way or another, abbreviated. The spinning jenny, or small engine, moveable by the hand, was brought into use in those places where streams were wanted to drive mill-machinery; and hence in every situation great dispatch was made. The weaving has also come to be abbreviated as well as the spinning, and machine or steam-loom is almost now as general as hand-loom.

The weaving of cotton and other goods by steam was, for a long time, treated by the weavers and mechanics of Lancashire as an idle speculation. Often has the Editor of this work heard them exclaim "never till they can make a machine to see and to think will they make one to weave by steam." Subsequent experience has, however, proved the contrary, and the steam loom is now the most complete machine of any employed in the cotton manufacture.

Thirty-five years ago, the weavers of Lancashire were the most independent and happy men in existence.— Their wages were liberal, provisions reasonable, and the whole of their families employed at their homes. Velveteens, velverets and strong cords were then the chief manufacture of Manchester, and the method in which the masters employed their weavers, was to deliver to them a warp, the weight of which being duly ascertained, a given quantity of cotton in the raw state, for weft, also delivered, the weaver proceeded to employ every branch of his family. One daughter would rove on the hand-wheel, and another would spin on the jenny; a younger girl and the mother would "wind pins," while the father and his sons or apprentices were employed in weaving; the piece, when finished, was

carried home to the master's warehouse or residence; the wages paid, and another warp "given out." The best understanding then existed between the masters and weavers. Mutual dependance created mutual interest, and the result was reciprocal esteem.

Whether the subsequent extension of cotton machinery, and the rapid increase of cotton manufactories have been a blessing to the country, or an evil, we do not pretend to determine.

A Mr. Grimshaw, of Gorton, was the first who established a factory of power-looms in Manchester, which was shortly after its commencement burnt down.

The Editor of this work was many years engaged as the proprietor of a weaving manufactory in Shrewsbury, in the establishment and continuance of which he expended many thousands of pounds, yet he never heartily approved of the use of steam-looms; to be able to compete with others in the market, was his only motive for their adoption.

The number of power-looms in the neighbourhood of Manchester, in 1824, was stated to be 30,000.

The quantity of cotton converted into yarn lbs.

in Great Britain and Ireland in one	
year is about	160,000,000
The loss in spinning may be estimated at	15,000,000

Quantity of yarn produced	145,000,000
Amount, supposing 1s. 8d. to be the average price per lb.....	£10,875,000

According to Mr. Kennedy's calculation, that every person employed in spinning produces 900lbs. per annum, the number of persons employed is 161,111. The number of spindles employed, supposing each to produce 15lbs weight per annum, is 9,666,666. The capital invested in buildings and machinery cannot be less than £10,000,000.

Mr. Owen, of Lanark, calculates that two hundred hands with machines, now manufacture as much cotton as twenty millions of hands were able to manufacture without machines forty years ago; and that the cotton now manufactured in the course of one year, in Great Britain, would require, without machines, sixteen mil-

lions of workmen with simple wheels. He calculates further, that the quantity of manufactures of all sorts, at present produced by British workmen with the aid of machines, is so great, that it would require, without the assistance of machinery, the labour of four hundred millions of workmen !

At some of the cotton mills in Manchester, yarn has been spun so fine as to require 350 hanks to weigh one pound avoirdupoise. The perimeter of the common reel being one yard and a half, 80 threads or revolutions would measure 120 yards, and one hank seven times as much, or 840 yards, multiplied by 350, gives 294,840 yards, or 167 miles and a fraction !

FLEA CARRIAGES.

(*Various Authorities.*)

AMONGST the *smallest* of Inventions, but not the *least* singular, we rank those of Flea Carriages, supposing the descriptions to be correct :

For the following we are indebted to the attention of an esteemed friend, who transcribed it from Baldwin's Weekly Journal, 13th September, 1823.

"HATTON GARDEN--On Saturday William Congreve, working Goldsmith, was charged with pawning a Gold Ring, a Brooch and Seal, the property of a gentleman, who gave them him to repair.

Some gentleman of the trade stated that the prisoner was the best workman in London, and perhaps in the world, and might be an opulent man, had he but attended to his business, and could easily earn from 7 to £10 a day, and never want work ; instead of which he was idle and would not work, but spent his time smoking and drinking in public houses, with persons of the very lowest description, and whenever any work was entrusted to him, he was sure of pawning it. As one instance of the prisoner's surprising abilities, it was stated, that some years ago he made a Coach with four wheels of gold and ivory not bigger than a pea, with a complete set of gold harness for two fleas, which drew

the carriage; each flea had a chain of gold round its neck consisting of 160 links, fastened on by a small gold padlock, and which they drew along on a table, and being examined by a microscope, appeared in every respect perfect in all parts, and when he unfastened them from the coach, he fed them on his wrist, or on the back of his hand, and then put them into a small box in which there was a bit of cotton. The coach he kept in a separate box, each not bigger than a nut, and this extraordinary curiosity was shewn at the time to their late Majesties, and the principal nobility in the kingdom, as many living witnesses could attest. A gentleman present expressed his doubt that two fleas could be able to draw a coach and harness of that size and weight; another in rejoinder remarked that a flea was the strongest living thing in nature, that it could carry a thousand times its own weight, and leap upwards of two thousand times its own length, and had an elephant the strength and activity of a flea in proportion to its bulk, it could carry the monument on its back, or leap from Hyde Park to Greenwich. This extraordinary curiosity the prisoner lost when in a state of intoxication at a public house in Clerkenwell Green.

A few years ago, a Mr. Boverick, an ingenious watch-maker, of London, exhibited to the public, a little ivory chaise, with four wheels, and all its proper apparatus, and a man sitting on the box, all of which were drawn by a single flea. He made a small landau, which opened and shut by springs, with six horses harnessed to it, a coachman sitting on the box, and a dog between his legs: four persons were in the carriage, two footmen behind it, and a postillion riding on one of the fore horses, which was also easily drawn along by a flea. He likewise had a chain of brass, about two inches long, containing 200 links, with a hook at one end, and a padlock and key at the other, which the flea drew very nimbly along.

But what is infinitely more surprising, as it happened at a time when the arts were not to be put in competition with those of the present day. So long ago as the time of Queen Elizabeth, an exhibition was displayed

CASWALLON, PRINCE OF THE BRITONS. 409

before her majesty. in the year 1578, by Mark Scalion, a blacksmith, consisting of a lock, composed of eleven pieces of iron, steel, and brass, with a hollow key to it, weighing altogether but one grain of gold. He likewise made a gold chain, composed of forty-three links, to which he fastened the lock and key; and having placed this chain about the neck of a flea, that little animal drew it with ease. He then put the lock and key, the flea and the chain, all into a pair of scales, and they weighed together one grain and a half.—(*Jamieson's Modern Voyages and Travels.*)

EXTRAORDINARY MEN AND WOMEN.

MEN OF GENIUS, ENTERPRISE, &c.

CASWALLON, PRINCE OF THE BRITONS.

(*Owen's Cambrian Biography.*)

CASWALLON, the son of Beli, one of the most illustrious characters in British History, known to the world under the name of Cassivellaunus, as he is called by Cæsar. He is first noticed in the Triads as one of the three faithful lovers, with Trystan and Cynon. The object of his passion was Flur, the daughter of Mugnach, who was forcibly carried away by Murchan, a Gaulish prince of Gascony, with a view of presenting her to Cæsar. For the purpose of recovering his mistress, Caswallon exerted all his influence among his countrymen; so he raised a numerous army, which passed over into Gaul, and in conjunction with his nephews Gwenwynwyn and Gwanar, with auxiliaries from the people bordered on Galedin, or Netherlands, and from the Bylwenwys, or those who inhabited about Boulogne. These altogether formed an army of upwards of sixty thousand men, which Caswallon led among the Gauls of Llydaw, or Armoricans, against Cæsar. In this expedition the Triads say that Caswallon fought against the partisans of Cæsar, killing

upwards of six thousand of the enemy; and that he demanded Flur, and had her restored. It is stated in another triad that he went in a golden cart to demand her, whence he was called one of the three princes with golden cars; the other two were Llew Llaw Gyfes and Manawydan. It is further added that the appearance of this army in Gaul was the cause of Cæsar's invading Britain; and which for the most part did not return, but settled in Gascony, 'among the Cabri-ans,' and therefore was called one of the three emigrating hosts of Britain: the others were led away by Urp and Helen. This account of the expedition of Caswallon is fully confirmed by Cæsar; who says that his motive for invading Britain was because of the assistance derived by the Gauls from thence. Whatever his real views might have been, the ostensible cause was the above, which must have been a well known fact, or else he would not have made use of it. Some of his enemies raised a report that the beauty of the British pearls was his temptation; but this was probably only a poetical metaphor, founded upon the story of the fair lady before mentioned. The next thing recorded in the Triads of Caswallon is his election to the supreme command of the Britons, for the purpose of opposing Cæsar, under the title of Elected Chief of Battle; being the first instance of the kind that occurred in their history: Gweirydd and Caradog were two others raised to that eminent rank, thus forming a triad under that appellation. Whatever impression the disciplined legions of Rome might have made on the Britons in the first instance, the subsequent departure of Cæsar they considered as a cause of triumph: and it is stated that Caswallon proclaimed an assembly of the various states of the island, for the purpose of celebrating that event by feasting and public rejoicing. So far are the actions of Caswallon noticed in the Triads: there is no other source of information concerning him but what is already before the world.

WILLIAM, DUKE OF NORMANDY.

(Various Authorities.)

WILLIAM, who was afterwards called the Conqueror, was natural son of Robert, Duke of Normandy. His mother's name was Arlette, a beautiful maid of Falaize, whom Robert fell in love with as she stood gazing at the door whilst he passed through the town. William, who was the offspring of this amour, owed a part of his greatness to his birth, but still more to his own personal merit. His body was vigorous, his mind capacious and noble, and his courage not to be repressed by apparent danger. Upon coming to his dukedom of Normandy, though yet very young, he on all sides opposed his rebellious subjects, and repressed foreign invaders, while his valour and conduct prevailed in every action. The tranquillity which he had thus established in his dominions induced him to extend his views; and some overtures made by Edward the Confessor, in the latter part of his reign, who was wavering in the choice of a successor, inflamed his ambition with a desire of succeeding to the English throne. The pope himself was not behind the rest in favouring his pretensions; and, either influenced by the apparent justice of his claims, or by the hopes of extending the authority of the church, he immediately pronounced Harold an usurper. With such favourable incentives, William soon found himself at the head of a chosen army of sixty thousand men, all equipped in the most warlike and splendid manner. It was in the beginning of summer that he embarked this powerful body on board a fleet of three hundred sail; and, after some small opposition from the weather, landed at Pevensey, a small town in Sussex, with resolute tranquillity.

Harold, who seemed resolved to defend his right to the crown, and retain that sovereignty which he had received from the people, who only had a right to bestow it, was now returning, flushed with conquest, from defeating the Norwegians, who had invaded the kingdom, with all the forces he had employed in that expedition, and all he could invite or collect in the country through which he passed. His army was composed of active

and valiant troops, in high spirits, strongly attached to their king, and eager to engage.

On the other hand, the army of William consisted of the flower of all the Continent, and had long been inured to danger. The men of Bretagne, Bologne, Flanders, Poictou, Maine, Orleans, France, and Normandy, were all voluntarily united under his command. England never before, nor ever since, saw two such armies drawn up to dispute its crown. The day before the battle, William sent an offer to Harold to decide the quarrel between them by single combat, and thus to spare the blood of thousands; but Harold refused, and said he would leave it to the God of armies to determine. Both armies, therefore, that night pitched in sight of each other, expecting the dawning of the next day with impatience. The English passed the night in songs and feasting; the Normans in devotion and prayer.

This memorable battle, so fatal to Harold, and destructive of the then rising English liberties, was fought October 13, 1066, and is thus detailed in *Thierry's History of the Conquest*.

"The army was soon within sight of the Saxon camp, to the north-west of Hastings. The priests and monks then detached themselves from it, and ascended a neighbouring height, to pray, and witness the conflict. A Norman, named Taillefer, spurred his horse forward in front, and began the song of the exploits of Charlemagne and Roland, famous throughout Gaul. As he sung, he played with his sword, throwing it up with force in the air, and receiving it again in his right hand. The Normans joined in chorus, or cried, God be our help! God be our help!

"As soon as they came within bowshot, the archers and crossbow-men began to discharge their arrows; but most of the shots were deadened by the high parapet of the Saxon redoubts. The infantry, armed with spears, and the cavalry, then advanced to the entrances of the redoubts, and endeavoured to force them. The Anglo-Saxons, all on foot around their standard planted in the ground, and forming behind their redoubts one compact and solid mass, received the assailants with heavy blows of their battle-axes, which, with a back-stroke,

broke their spears and clove their coats of mail. The Normans, unable to penetrate the redoubts, or to tear up the palisades, and fatigued with their unsuccessful attack, fell back upon the division commanded by William. The Duke then commanded all his archers again to advance, and ordered them not to shoot point blank, but to discharge their arrows upwards, so that they might descend over the rampart of the enemy's camp. Many of the English were wounded, chiefly in the face, in consequence of this manœuvre; Harold himself lost an eye by an arrow, but he nevertheless continued to command and to fight. The close attack of the foot and horse recommenced, to the cry of "Our lady! God be our help! God be our help!" But the Normans were repulsed at one entrance of the Saxon camp, as far as a great ravine covered with grass and brambles, in which, their horses stumbling, they fell pell-mell, and numbers of them perished. There was now a momentary panic in the army of the foreigners; it was rumoured that William was killed, and at this news they began to fly. William threw himself before the fugitives, and barred their passage, threatening them, and striking them with his lance; then, uncovering his head, "Here I am," cried he; "look at me; I am still alive, and with God's help I will conquer."

"The horsemen returned to the redoubts; but, as before, they could neither force the entrance nor make a breach. The Duke then bethought himself of a stratagem to draw the English out of their position and their ranks. He ordered a thousand Horse to advance and immediately fly. At the sight of this feigned rout, the Saxons were thrown off their guard; and all set off in pursuit, with their axes suspended from their necks. At a certain distance, a body of troops posted there for the purpose joined the fugitives, who then turned round; and the English, surprised in the midst of their disorder, were assailed on all sides with spears and swords, which they could not ward off, both hands being occupied in wielding their heavy axes. When they had lost their ranks, the openings of the redoubts were forced and horse and foot entered together; but the combat was still warmly maintained, pell-mell and hand to hand.

William had his horse killed under him. Harold and his two brothers fell dead at the foot of their standard, which was plucked from the ground, and the flag sent from Rome planted in its stead. The remains of the English army, without a chief and without a standard, prolonged the struggle until it was so dark that the combatants on each side could only recognise one another by their language."

William, after exercising great tyranny towards his English subjects, died at a little village near Rouen, April 9, 1067.

JOHN DE COURCY.

(Gail's Pictures of History.)

THE Irish history abounds in adventures of men of extraordinary prowess and heroism, but there is perhaps none more romantic than what is related of John de Courcy. This great warrior was never satisfied nor reconciled to the manner by which King John, obtained the throne; he treated his conduct as equally lawless and cruel, and openly charged him with the murder of Prince Arthur. John, stung with this reproach, summoned him to repair to his presence, which De Courcy at first preremptorily refused. However, on considering that he was not in a condition to withstand the power of the king, he at last consented to do homage to John, on receiving a safe conduct, but which was not respected by that unprincipled tyrant. For De Courcy, immediately on his arrival in England, was condemned to perpetual imprisonment, and remained neglected until a champion from Philip, King of France, appeared at the court of John, and offered to maintain by wager of battle his master's claims to certain castles and domains in the duchy of Normandy.

None of the English courtiers seemed disposed to encounter this gigantic challenger, at which John was exceedingly mortified, till reminded that the bodily strength of De Courcy was not inferior to that of the French champion. De Courcy, in consequence, is

invited to support the honour of his country; and, after repeated denials, is at length prevailed upon, not for the sake of John, to whom he bore an implacable enmity, and who had treated him so injuriously, but for the honour of the crown and kingdom to accept the challenge. He desired his own sword to be brought from Ireland: the rigour of his confinement was softened, and his strength repaired by due care and nourishment. The day of this important decision at last arrives. The Princes and nobles of France and England are assembled in the utmost expectation. The Frenchman first appears; De Courcy prepares himself with great composure, and when he enters the lists the Frenchman having surveyed him minutely, and being terrified by the stern aspect, and the colossal stature of his antagonist, declines the combat, and flies from the field.

Philip and John, who are said to have been witnesses of this triumph of De Courcy, entreated him to give some proof of his bodily strength, as they had been disappointed in their expectations of his hardy combat with the Frenchman. In compliance with their desire, he ordered his attendant to drive a stake into the ground, on which he placed a coat of mail and a helmet. Then drawing his sword, and looking with a threatening aspect on the princes, he struck it through the armour so deeply into the stake that no one but himself could draw it out. The princes expressed their astonishment, not only at his vigour, but at the menacing looks which he had darted at them both. He answered them with a rude and sullen violence that, had he missed his blow, he should have struck their heads. The importance of the service achieved by intimidating the challenger, atoned for these passionate expressions. John gave him his liberty, and restored him to his possessions; and, it is added, that on this occasion he also granted to De Courcy and his heirs the privilege of standing covered in their first audience with the King of England."

The Rev. R. De Courcy of Shrewsbury claimed descent from this illustrious individual.

SIR WILLIAM WALLACE.

(The Same.)

OF all the ancient worthies of Scotland, the memory of none is held in such veneration as that of Sir William Wallace. He was the son of a gentleman of Cunningham, who possessed a small estate in the neighbourhood of Ayr, called Craigie. In his youth he had imbibed a most inveterate hatred to the English, and, as he advanced to manhood, his extraordinary strength and stature taught him that he was destined to signalize himself against the oppressors of his country. While he was still but a youth, he had been so provoked by the insolence of an English officer, that he felled him on the spot, which obliged him to abscond and take shelter in the woods, where he became the leader of a band of desperate men, who had been obliged to fly their homes for similar offences. Among his followers he soon acquired that authority to which his various virtues, his heroic courage, his magnanimity and astonishing fortitude, so justly entitled him. Beginning with small attempts, in which he was always successful, he gradually proceeded to more momentous enterprises. By his knowledge of the country he was enabled, when pursued, to obtain a refuge in unknown caverns, and retreats inaccessible to his enemies; whence issuing again, and collecting his dispersed associates, he unexpectedly appeared in other quarters, and surprised the English by his hardihood and spirit. His object was freedom, and his sword was unsparing to the oppressor.

This gallant defender of his country was eventually basely betrayed by his intimate friend John Menteith into the hands of the King of England, who caused him to be put to death, and the several parts of his body hung up in the principal cities of England and Scotland, A. D. 1303.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.

(General Biography.)

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS, a celebrated navigator, was born at Genoa about 1447. His origin was humble, and it is asserted that he was bred to his fa-

s business, of a weaver, but quitted it for the sea. r making some trading voyages in the Mediterra- , he engaged in the service of a corsair, but the was blown up in an engagement, and he saved him- y swimming. He then went to Lisbon, where his er Bartholomew was settled as a maker of charts. Christopher married the daughter of a naval com- ler, who had been employed in voyages of discove- From his Father-in-law's journals and charts he ired a considerable share of nautical knowledge, raded several years to the Canary islands and the of Africa. By application to the study of cosmo- hy, he began to entertain the idea, that there must new continent beyond the Atlantic ocean. The he considered this subject he became confirmed in persuasion, and after corresponding with a learned ntine, named Paul Foscanelli, famous for his geo- hical skill, he communicated his plan to the repub- Genoa, but his proposals were rejected as extrava- He next applied to John II. king of Portugal, without success. He then sent his brother Bartho- w to Henry VII. of England, but on the voyage he taken by pirates. In the mean time Columbus ob- d an audience of Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain, received him favourably, and in 1492 granted him e vessels to prosecute discoveries. The conditions lated between him and his royal employers were, it if he made no discoveries he should have no re- ; that if he did he should be viceroy by land, and ral by sea, and have the tenths of the profits of all countries discovered by him, and that these privi- should descend to his family." August 2d of that , Columbus and his little squadron launched into leep and touched at the Canaries on the 11th, from ice the sailed; they 6th of September. When they out of sight of land the crews began to be uneasy, it required no ordinary share of prudence to pre- them from breaking into mutiny. Columbus, ver succeeded in stilling the fears and keeping alive opes of his men, and on the 11th of October he ived a light from his cabin. The next morning nded in Guana bay, and erected the royal stand-

ard. This island, which is one of the Lucayan or Bahama, he called St. Salvador. From hence he sailed to Cuba, and afterwards to Hispaniola. Having discovered other islands, and taken possession in the name of their catholic majesties, Columbus returned to Europe, bringing with him some of the natives. January 24th, he arrived at Lisbon, and was well received by the king of Portugal, who, however seemed to think that the conquests appertained to him, as Columbus had been in his service. Columbus replied "that he knew of no such agreement, and had carefully abstained from visiting any of the Portuguese settlements." The king was satisfied, and would have sent him to Spain over-land, but the admiral chose rather to go with his ships. On the 15th of March he arrived at Seville, and immediately went to Barcelona to their majesties, who received him under a canopy of cloth of gold, made him sit beside them, and conferred on him several marks of favour. Having obtained letters patent, a larger fleet was fitted out under his command, and people were sent out to colonize Hispaniola. Columbus sailed from Cadiz, September 25, 1493, and in this voyage visited the islands of Dominica, St. Mary's, Guadaloupe, Montserrat, Antigua, Hispaniola, Cuba, and Jamaica. In his voyage home his men suffered much from want of provisions and sickness, and a difference among the pilots occasioned much disaffection. But Columbus preserved his temper, and by admirable prudence maintained order among his crews. In this voyage he confirmed the result of former observations on the variation of the compass. In 1498, he made a third voyage, in which he discovered the island of Trinidad, and on his arrival at Hispaniola found the colony in a state bordering on a civil war. He succeeded in restoring peace, but some of the settlers, out of envy against him and his Brother Bartholomew, whom he had left there as his lieutenant, sent home such accusations, that queen Isabella revoked the appointment of Columbus, and appointed Francis de Bovadilla governor in his room.—This man, on his arrival, caused the Brothers to be ironed, and in that condition sent them to Europe.—The captain of the ship would have taken off the fetters,

but Columbus refused to be liberated except in the presence of his sovereigns. All Spain felt with indignation the insult offered to so great a man. He was instantly set at liberty, and rewarded with a considerable grant. Columbus, however, always kept the fetters and ordered that they should be buried with him. In 1502 he made another voyage, in which he traced the coast of Darien, thinking to find a passage to the East Indies. He returned to Spain in 1504, and found queen Isabella dead and the king prejudiced against him. This great man died at Valladolid, in 1506. His remains were interred in the cathedral of Seville, where a monument was erected to his memory, bearing this inscription : " To Castile and Leon Columbus has given a new world." Yet this brave adventurer had not the honour of giving his name to the world he discovered, but was robbed of it by Amerigo, or Americus Vesputius, a Florentine. Of Columbus's singular sagacity and prudence the following anecdote is related. While he lay off Hispaniola, the Indians neglected to bring him the provisions which he had agreed for : on this Columbus sent for the chiefs, and told them that the God of the Christians was angry at their breach of faith, and as a proof of it, the ensuing night the moon would rise with a threatening and bloody aspect. He knew that there would be an eclipse that night, but the Indians made light of the prediction, till they saw it verified, on which, in great agony, they supplicated his forgiveness, and ever after continued to bring in the stipulated supplies.

JAMES CRICHTON.

(*Scottish Biography.*)

JAMES CRICHTON, a celebrated Scotchman, born about 1550, in the county of Perth, of a good family. Among the favorites of nature that have from time to time appeared in the world, enriched with various endowments and contrarieties of excellence, none seems to have been more exalted above the common rate of humanity, than this man, known about two centuries ago by the appellation of the Admirable Crichton ; of whose history, whatever we may suppose as surpassing credibility, yet we shall, upon in-

into Italy. The prize-fighter advanced with great violence and fierceness, and Crichton contented himself calmly to ward his passes, and suffered him to exhaust his vigour by his own fury. Crichton then became the assailant: and pressed upon him with such force and agility, that he thrust him thrice through the body, and saw him expire; he then divided the prize he had won among the widows whose husbands had been killed.

The death of this wonderful man we should be willing to conceal, did we not know that every reader will inquire curiously after that fatal hour, which is common to all human beings, however distinguished from each other by nature or by fortune.

The Duke of Mantua, having received so many proofs of his various merit, made him tutor to his son Vincenzio Di Gonzaga, a prince of loose manners and turbulent disposition. On this occasion it was, that he composed the comedy in which he exhibited so many different characters with exact propriety. But his honour was of short continuance; for as he was one night in the time of the Carnival rambling about the streets, with his guitar in his hand, he was attacked by six men masked. Neither his courage nor his skill in this exigence deserted him; he opposed them with such activity and spirit, that he soon dispersed them, and disarmed their leader, who, throwing off his mask, discovered himself to be the prince his pupil. Crichton falling on his knees, took his own sword by the point, and presented it to the prince; who immediately seized it, and instigated, as some say, by jealousy, according to others only by drunken fury and brutal resentment, thrust him through the heart.

Thus was the Admirable Crichton brought into that state, in which he could excel the meanest of mankind only by a few empty honours paid to his memory: the court of Mantua, testified their esteem by a public mourning, the contemporary wits were profuse of their encomiums, and the palaces of Italy were adorned with pictures, representing him on horseback with a lance in one hand and a book in the other.

REV. SAMUEL LEE.

*(The Editor.)**

THE subject of the following brief Memoir is one among the numerous illustrious instances this age has produced of merit attaining eminence and respectability, and genius distinction and reward.

Mr. SAMUEL LEE, now Professor Lee, was born May 14. 1783, at Longnor, a small village about eight miles from Shrewsbury.

To a Charity School, in Mr. Lee's native village, he appears to have been indebted for the first rudiments of his education. At the age of 12 years, he was apprenticed to his brother, Mr. J. Lee, carpenter and builder. Advancing towards maturity, his attachment to reading and his thirst for knowledge were daily manifested. Frequently meeting with essays, &c. in which were Latin quotations, his enquiring mind could not rest satisfied without acquiring the means of being able to understand their import, he, therefore, with the aid of Ruddiman's Latin Grammar, which he accidentally met with on a Book stall, at the age of seventeen, commenced the formidable task of learning the Latin language, without a master. At this time his wages amounted to no more than six shillings per week, out of which sum he had to pay for his own subsistence, and washing and lodging—yet out of this pittance, by great economy, he contrived to save a little for the purchase of Books.—At this period, his method was to purchase a Book, make himself master of its contents, then re-sell or exchange it for another. On the expiration of the term of his apprenticeship, he formed the determination to make himself acquainted with the Greek. He accordingly purchased a Westminster Greek Grammar; and not long afterwards a Greek Testament; which, with the assistance of Schrevelius' Lexicon, he was soon able to read. Having made this proficiency, he next procur-

* For a principal portion of the *outline* of this Memoir the Editor is indebted to that valuable work the Imperial Magazine.

of "Huntingford's Greek Testament," which he was throughout, and then, agreement in the plan notwithstanding, in these *Exercises*, read Kennicott's *Expositio*, and, shortly afterwards, Pagnini's *Disputationes*. Some parts of the *Heb. and Syriac of Hebrew*, the *Golden Treasury of Prolegomena*, with the *Commentary of Maronides*, Lactantius' *Divine Questions of the Jews*, some of the *Pentateuch Manuscripts*, and the *Antiquities of Josephus*, were introduced to assist the career of diligence, and to augment his stock of knowledge. Having surmounted these difficulties, Mr. Lee next translated the *versus* amongst the *Hebrews*; and, with this design, he purchased Buxtorf's *Grammatica*, with his *Lexicon Prolegomena*, by the help of which, he was enabled, in a short time to read the *Hebrew Pentateuch*, a copy of which he purchased. Advancing in the study of this language, he next purchased Buxtorf's *Grammatica* and *Lexicon*, together with a *Hebrew Bible*, with which he soon made himself acquainted.

It was not long after this time, that a kind of accident threw in his way the Targum of Onkelos, which, with the assistance of a Chaldee Grammar he already possessed in Buxtorf's *Lexicon*, and Schindler's *Lexicon*, he was soon able to read. His next step was to undertake the Syriac, in which also his efforts were crowned with success. By the assistance which he derived from Otho's *Synopsis* and Schindler's *Testament*, he was soon enabled to read some of Gattir's *Testament*. He next turned his attention to the Samaritan, in which he found less difficulty than in several of his former attempts. For as the Samaritan Pentateuch differs but little from the Hebrew, except in the variation of character, he found few obstacles to his reading it. In this, however, he was compelled to confine himself to such quotations as books supplied; as works in that language did not lie within reach.

During the whole of this astonishing career, Mr. Lee was unaided by any instructor, uncheered by any literary companion, and uninfluenced by the hope either of profit or praise. The difficulties which he had to surmount, arising from his situation in life, were more than sufficient to depress any spiritless active and energetic than his own. But in addition to these, his incessant

sant application to study, brought on an inflammation in his eyes, with which, at times, he was severely afflicted.

But while Mr. Lee made these rapid advances in the acquirement of languages, he was not inattentive to the business upon which his livelihood depended. In the purchase of books, he had expended much money; but he had also procured a chest of tools, worth about £25 by the time he had attained his twenty-fifth year.—Considering his trade as his only support, and receiving some intimations and promises of a favourable nature in the line of his occupation; his prospects in life, now fully engrossed his attention; and under these views he married. The changes which had thus taken place soon induced him to think, that, how pleasing soever his acquisitions might appear, they were entirely useless in the situation that seemed to be allotted him; and under these impressions, he thought it prudent to relinquish the study of languages altogether. His books were accordingly sold, and new resolutions were formed, that coincided with his station, if they were not conformable to his inclination.

But the issues of human life frequently depend upon incidents, which we can neither anticipate nor command. Mr. Lee, prior to these latter resolutions, had been sent into Worcestershire, to superintend, under his brother, before named, Mr. J. Lee, the repairing of a large house, belonging to the Rev. Mr. Cookes. While in this situation, he was awakened from his dream of life, by a melancholy accident, that in one instant totally disarranged his plans, and reduced him and his wife to a state of the most severe distress. A fire broke out in the house which they had been repairing, which consumed all his tools, together with his hopes and prospects, in one devouring blaze. In consequence of this calamity, he was now cast upon the world, without a friend, without a shilling, and without even the means of subsistence. On his own account, as he had long been accustomed to misfortune, these calamities were but slightly felt: but the partner of his life, being involved in the same common affliction, her distress gave to his sufferings a degree of acuteness, which virtuous sympathy alone can comprehend.

Affairs, however, had now reached an important crisis. What was lost could not be recovered; and Mr. Lee began seriously to think of adopting some new course, which he might derive advantages from his former studies. At this time, nothing appeared so eligible to him, as that of becoming a country schoolmaster to qualify himself more fully for this office, he applied with assiduity to the study of Murray's English classics, and to the improvement of his knowledge of the rules of arithmetic. But against this scheme there was one formidable objection. He had no money on which to begin; and he knew not any friend, who, under existing circumstances, would be disposed to lend him the sum he wanted. From this it appears, that Mr. Lee, who was then rising to eminence and respectability as a builder, did not sufficiently appreciate the talents of his brother.

Providentially, while he was in this state of distress, solicitude, and embarrassment, the Rev. Arthur Corbett, having heard of his singular attachment to study, and of his being at that time in Longnor, received an interview; that he might learn from his statement, the genuine particulars of a report*, in

* While this article was preparing for the press, the Editor, in conversation with a young gentleman of the medical profession was informed, that Mr. Lee's talents and abilities were first discovered at a meeting of the Society of Free Masons, in Shrewsbury, as the question was proposed to Mr. Lee, by a brother Mason, father to the gentleman who made this communication, on a slip of paper, and handed across the table, which Mr. Lee promptly gave an answer in Latin, which was immediately noticed and replied to by the proposer in the same language; when Mr. Lee, with great courtesy, rejoined in Greek. This led to enquiries and reports, which eventually opened the way for his subsequent advancement. The Editor of this work feels an inconsiderable degree of pleasure from the recollection that he was not the last to discover and estimate the learning and talents of his fellow townsman.

from its singularity, he hesitated to place implicit confidence. A little conversation soon convinced him, that, on this occasion, the trumpet of fame had not sounded a delusive blast ; and an inquiry into this mode of life, soon led to a developement of his present calamities.

Pleased with having such an opportunity of fostering genius, of relieving distress, and of rewarding application, this worthy gentleman soon adopted measures, through which Mr. Lee was appointed to superintend Bowdler's Charity School in Shrewsbury, and at the same time, introduced to the notice of Doctor Jonathan Scott, who had been Persian Secretary to Mr. Hastings in India, and who is well known and highly respected as an Oriental scholar. It was with this gentleman, that Mr. Lee had, for the first time in his life, either the opportunity or pleasure of conversing upon those arduous studies in which he had been so long engaged ; but which, under all the disadvantages arising from solitude and poverty, he had prosecuted with so much success.

Astonished at Mr. Lee's acquisitions, and finding him possessed of almost unexampled facilities for the acquirement of Language, Doctor Scott put into his hands some books, through the assistance of which he has made himself acquainted with the Arabic, Persian, and Hindostanee languages. The loan of these books, and some instruction in pronunciation, included all that Mr. Lee required from foreign aid. His own mind furnished every other resource. And such was his progress in these hitherto untrodden paths, that, in the course of a few months, he was not only able to read and translate from any Arabic or Persian manuscript, but to compose in these languages. To his friend and patron Dr. Scott, Mr. Lee sent Arabic and Persian translations of several Oriental apologues taken from Dr. Johnson's Rambler ; and also Addison's Vision of Mirza in the Spectator. These translations, in the opinion of Dr. Scott, were 'wonderfully well done ;' and his testimony is confirmed by the decided approbation which Mr. James Anderson, whose abilities as an Oriental scholar need no encomium, has been pleased to express.

Mr. Lee's talents are not wholly confined to the dead and Eastern languages. He has also made a considerable proficiency in French, German, and Italian. With this amazing faculty of mind, he has also associated a taste for elegant composition : and his poetical talents are highly respectable. Of this taste, and of these talents, he has furnished several specimens in English and Latin. He has also given a parody of Gray's Ode to Adversity, in Greek Sapphic verse, which is considered, by competent judges, as a surprising effort of self instructed genius.

"When I first had the pleasure of conversing with Mr. Lee upon books," says Archdeacon Corbett,* "I found he had read the Latin poets usually introduced into schools, as Ovid, Virgil, Horace, &c. ; that he had read part of the Odyssey, as well as the Iliad, of Homer ; some of the Greek minor poets, and some of the plays of Sophocles. Before we parted, I lent him the memoirs of that interesting and extraordinary young man, Mr. Kirke White, then lately printed. Mr. Lee returned it to me very shortly, with a Latin poem in praise of Kirke White : a dialogue in Greek, on the Christian religion ; and a pious effusion in Hebrew ; all composed by himself, when, as I believe, he had not any access to books, for he was, during the time, upon permanent duty at Ludlow, as a member of the South Local Militia for this county. And I believe the first prose composition of any length Mr. Lee turned his attention to, was the History of the Syrian Churches in India ; a memoir which would do credit to the pen of any historian."

From the knowledge which Mr. Lee had obtained of the Oriental languages, through his acquaintance with Dr. Scott, he was introduced into a few private houses, as instructor in Persic and Hindostanee, to the sons of gentlemen, who were expecting appointments either in the civil or military department of the Honourable

* In his admirable Speech delivered Aug. 1818, at a Meeting of the Shropshire Auxiliary Bible Society, of which he is the distinguished supporter and President.

East India Company's service. This engagement, the superintendence of his own school, and his occasional attendance on two other seminaries as teacher of Arithmetic, constituted his employment, during his residence at Shrewsbury; and from the proficiency made by his pupils, it may be fairly inferred, that his talent of conveying knowledge to others, corresponded with the facility with which he makes his personal acquisitions.

But the period was at hand, in which, through the order of an over-ruling Providence, Mr. Lee was to be transplanted to a region more congenial to his natural feelings, and the bent of his genius. His acquaintance with Dr. Scott, which knew no interruption, was soon matured into a serious friendship; and this, in conjunction with his constantly accumulating attainments, led to his connection with the Church Missionary Society; to his admission at Queen's College, Cambridge; and to his ordination as a Minister of the Established Church. But his admission at the University, unfolds another feature in the astonishing character of his genius, which justice forbids us to pass by in silence.

"When he entered at Cambridge," says Archdeacon Corbett, "he was unacquainted with the Mathematics. But in one fortnight he had qualified himself to attend a class, which had gone through several books of Euclid, and he soon after discovered an error, not indeed in Euclid, but in a treatise on Spherical Trigonometry, usually bound up with Simson's Euclid, the 14th proposition of which Mr. Lee disproved. Now, as Mr. Simson's edition of Euclid may be looked upon as a text book at either University, and as it is the one usually put into the hands of students, and to which the lectures of the tutors apply, it is most wonderful, if a mistake should have been pointed out in such a work, and for the first time, it should seem, by a student of not many weeks' standing in that science. And as the highest honours are given at Cambridge to mathematical learners, Mr. Lee must have anticipated a safe and easy road to those honours. But he considered this point, as he considers all others, with that sobriety of mind with which he is so evidently gifted; and he contented himself with a competent knowledge of mathe-

matics, lest further attention to that seducing science, should interfere with those studies in which the highest interests of mankind are concerned. This decision speaks volumes as to Mr. Lee's theological views. Of Mr. Lee it may be said, that if he has ambition, it is to know the word of God himself, and to impart that word to others; though whether he shall be honoured upon earth, as the instrument of the good he has done, or may do, is, I believe, with him, a very inferior consideration; or rather no consideration at all."

In referring to the convertibility of Mr. Lee's genius, notwithstanding his retired and unassuming manners, and also to the sincerity with which he took upon him the sacred office of a minister of Jesus Christ, the following circumstance ought not to be omitted. No sooner was he in holy orders, than he received invitations to preach to some of the largest congregations. Many of these he accepted. On these occasions he ascended the pulpits with all the ease and self possession of one long accustomed to the station; and he delivered his discourses with a freedom and an eloquence, equal to that of the best practical preacher.

The languages with which this astonishing man (according to the Archdeacon) has made himself acquainted, including his native tongue, are eighteen in number; which are as follows.—1. English. 2. Latin. 3. Greek. 4. Hebrew. 5. Chaldee. 6. Syriac. 7. Samaritan. 8. Arabic. 9. Persic. 10. Hindostanee. 11. French. 12. German. 13. Italian.—14. Ethiopic. 15. Coptic. 16. Malay. 17. Sanscrit. 18. Bengalee.—This is about one-third more than the much celebrated Mr. Crichton ever attained. But as he is daily engaged in new studies a considerable increase to the above number may be fairly presumed.

Happily for the honour of the British nation, these talents have not been either suffered to remain in obscurity, or to languish under that adversity where they had their birth. At a Congregation, held on the 10th of March, 1819, the Rev. Samuel Lee, of Queen's College, was admitted Master of Arts by Royal Mandate, and was afterwards elected Professor of Arabic, on the resignation of the Rev. John Palmer, B. D. of St. John's

College. He has recently, (1825), been presented with the perpetual Curacy of Bilton, with Harrogate. Such are the honours which this Salopian genius has already attained, through the exercise of his extraordinary talents in the cause of virtue and religion. The dignity and exaltation which yet await him, we presume not to anticipate.

Of his personal character, an amiable picture has been drawn by his first venerable friend and patron, Archdeacon Corbett, who extended to him the hand of benevolence,* when his loss by fire had reduced him to a state of penury and distress. Towards Mr. Lee, the Archdeacon has invariably preserved his attachment, withholding no assistance that friendship, and a respect for genius, could induce him to bestow. Of this kindness Mr. Lee is so deeply sensible, that he omits no prudent opportunity of expressing his obligations, in the warm effusions of a grateful heart.

"The whole of Mr. Lee's life," says the Archdeacon, "has been sober, moral and consistent. He bears his faculties most meekly. The resources of his mind are unapparent, till called forth. He sought not polished society; but he mingled in it, when invited, without effort, and without embarrassment; and without losing any of his humility, he sustains his place in it with ease and independence. Mr. Lee's learning is without any tincture of pedantry; and his religion is as far removed from enthusiasm on the one hand, as it is from lukewarmness on the other. Let us bless God, then, that such talents are thus directed. Let us bless God, that they are directed in an especial manner to the interests of the Bible Society. And, perhaps, the grandeur and the simplicity so apparent in the plan of the Bible So-

* Of the general kindness and benevolence of the Archdeacon Corbett, the Editor forbears to speak—"Believing," (to use his own appropriate words, in reference to the excellent Bishop Ryder) "that we shall please more by abstaining from any Epithet, than by the most manifest eulogium."

cety, are the two adjuncts, that best exemplify the mind thus devoted to its service."

Nothing can illustrate the real character of Mr. Lee, with so much truth and accuracy, as the following Letters, the one addressed to his brother, Mr. James Lee, labouring under considerable mental disquietude and lowness of spirits: the other addressed to the wife of the same brother, on the occasion of the death of their youngest son:

"Pentonville, London, Sept. 23, 1816.

"My Dear Brother,

"I received Mrs. Lee's kind letter. I am sorry to hear of your lowness of spirits, and heartily wish I could effectually remove it. I hope no religious fears distress your mind. These are to be checked as early as possible; and let me only say, if such is truly the case, you have the greatest possible reason to rejoice. It is an evidence that your repentance is sincere, and therefore acceptable to God. You must now therefore rejoice and be exceeding glad, leaving every care to God. He will, in due time, assist you with whatever is necessary for your heavenly and earthly comfort. This is the trial of faith, and I pray Almighty God it may not fail. These are probably attacks from your spiritual enemy, and you must not in any case listen to his suggestions. Let your eye be directed to Jesus the *author* and *finisher* of your faith, and all will be well. But above all things suffer not yourself to dwell on gloomy suggestions. This is that worldly sorrow which worketh death; but roll your burden upon the Lord—He is both able and willing to bear it. Be sure not to suppose yourself a cast away—Your sense of former folly and wish to live a new life, are sufficient proofs to the contrary, and he who has given you this sense, will improve it to your salvation, unless you wilfully resist him. Do not let the gloomy opinions propagated by some even good Christians disturb you—the hand of mercy is opened to you—you have only to approach her throne. Grace and to partake largely of her offered bounty,

"I wish I could see you, but at present that is impossible. Let me hear, however, whenever you feel disposed to write. It will give me much pleasure, and particularly to hear of your complete happiness. I would not have you to overpower yourself with religious exercises, especially those which are of a gloomy nature. Your health at present, my dear Brother, cannot bear it. Let your mind principally dwell on the love and compassion of God our Saviour, who has done such great things for you; who is gone before to prepare you a place, where no more affliction can enter. — This will cheer your spirits; and to this God will give his blessing. Go on, therefore, in the name of the Lord, and suffer nothing earthly to cast you down: you may, in such a case, depend on the favour of God, and this is the best riches. I forbear to say any thing on the other side of the question, trusting you will not hesitate a moment to choose the best. I am sure Mrs. Lee will do all in her power to make you comfortable; you will also find new friends, and your children will grow up a blessing to you. If you feel it impossible to overcome your lowness, do mention it to Doctor Du Gard, I am sure he will give you something to relieve you, and in this I think you should lose no time. I hope you will favor me with a line or two when convenient. With our united regards to yourself, to Mrs. Lee, and all friends,

I remain, my Dear Brother,

Yours very sincerely,

SAMUEL LEE.

To Mrs. James Lee.†

"Cambridge†, April 16th, 1821.

"Dear Sister,

"I was much concerned on the receipt of a letter from your neighbour Mr. Jones, informing me of the death of your youngest boy. I am

† Mrs. Lee is the greatly respected Governess of the Female Children of the Royal Lancasterian School, in Shrewsbury.

‡ Mr. Lee still resides in Cambridge.

truly sorry for the loss you have sustained, and cannot but condole with you on so great a bereavement as this must have been. I know something of the feelings of a parent on occasions like this, and am therefore inclined to enter into all the difficulties which it brings with it. After all however, as it is one of God's dispensations, and perhaps one of the most merciful, we must endeavour, not only to acquiesce, but to give due praise. Your dear child is no doubt in a much better state of things than that in which he has left us—he has missed the troubles, together with the temptations to which his survivors must be subject, and as for death itself, it is but the trial appointed for all living. But besides the mercies thus bestowed upon your child, it will perhaps, not be one of the least thus to have visited you. Nothing is, generally, so advantageous for our progress in holiness as severe affliction; that which is not severe, is generally disregarded. If then the visitation has not only taken your child to heaven, but is also the means of bringing the parent thither, you must surely have cause of thankfulness; and I am much disposed to believe this is a dispensation of mercy, and not of anger. I was greatly gratified by the contents of Mr. Jones's letter, in finding he had been so warm a friend to you as to have charged himself with this little boy. I hope you will make my warmest acknowledgement to him for his kindness, and my hopes that eventually he may not be a loser, notwithstanding the loss he has now sustained. Such instances of kindness are rarely to be found, and I have no doubt you will meet them with that sense of obligation which they truly deserve.

I enclose you a mite towards defraying the funeral expenses, &c. which I hope you will accept, with my kindest regards to Mr. and Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Bromley, Miss Harrison and your little family. I now remain,

My dear Sister, yours very affectionately,

SAMUEL LEE.

* A spirit of genuine humility, and of the most exalted piety, breathes through every line of the above letters.—ED.

Mr. GEORGE BAGLEY,† Schoolmaster, of Shrewsbury, in youth acquired by his own industry a complete knowledge of Mathematics, Astrology, and many of the living and dead Languages; of eleven of which he composed grammars, considered very ingenious and useful. He died October 1812, aged 54.

But the most extraordinary instance of the manifestation of early genius of which the Editor has any personal knowledge, is that of

ELIZABETH BRADBURY,

who was born of poor parents, at Oldham, Lancashire, (as far as he recollects, in the year 1798) at the age of nine months she could almost articulate every word in common occurrence; with the sole instruction of her mother, at twelve months she could read, and shortly after learned to write, and acquired some knowledge of the Latin language; at the age of three years she stood upon a table placed in the pulpit of the Methodist Chapel at Middleton, seven miles from Manchester, and preached to a numerous and respectable congregation; the effect upon the minds of the hearers was most extraordinary, some absolutely fainted from excess of feeling and surprise. She was at this period considered as a prodigy, or rather as one endued with miraculous gifts. The crowds who came daily to visit her, and the money which was presented to her parents from visitors, prevented their acceptance of numerous offers from respectable individuals to take this extraordinary child under their protection, and to provide for its education and future happiness. About the year 1803 the Editor saw her at the Bull's Head, Swipton, five miles from Manchester, where her imprudent father exhibited her as a prodigy of talent and literature, and induced her to act the preacher for the amusement of public house company. She appeared equally playful as other children of her years, but seemed remarkably shrewd in her observations on the different characters in the company, especially on those who were not quite so

† Vide Salopian Magazine for 1816.

liberal in their gratuities as she could wish. The Editor requested her to write something in his pocket-book as a proof of her talents, when she immediately wrote her own and her father's name with each hand, (right and left) in a most beautiful style: He has had no information respecting her since the above period.

INSTANCES OF EXTRAORDINARY BEAUTY.

(*Various Authorities.*)

MAXIMINUS the Younger was a most beautiful prince. In the letter of Maximianus, the father, to the Senate concerning him, it is thus written: "I have suffered my son Maximinus to be saluted Emperor, as in respect of the natural affection I bear him: so also that the people of Rome, and the honourable Senate may swear they never had a more beautiful emperor." His face had such beauty in it, that when it was black and discoloured with death, yet even then there was a loveliness upon it. To conclude, when the head of the father being fastened to a spear, was carried about, and there was a mighty rejoicing at the sight, there was almost an equal sorrow at beholding that of the son when it was borne about in like manner.

MAXIMILIANUS, the first emperor of that name, was of a just stature, a person in whom shined the imperial majesty. There was no stranger but who knew him to be the emperor amongst thirty great princes, though he had never seen him before: there was something in his countenance so great and august that served to distinguish him from others.

SPURINA, a young man of Etruria, was of exquisite beauty: by this means he allured the eyes of very many illustrious ladies, though without design of his own. At length, finding he was suspected by their parents and husbands, he destroyed all the beauties of his face by the wounds he made in it; choosing rather that his deformity should be the evidence of his innocence, than that any comeliness of his should incite others to unchastity.

KING RICHARD the Second was the goodliest personage of all the kings of England that had been since the Conquest : tall of stature, of strait and strong limbs, fair and amiable of countenance, and such a one as might well be the son of a most beautiful mother.

OWEN TUDOR, an Esquire of Wales, after the death of Henry the Fifth, married Catharine his widow. The meanness of his estate was recompensed with the delicacy of his personage ; so absolute in all the lineaments of his body, that the contemplation of it might well make the queen forget all other circumstances.

" FAIR ROSAMOND, the beloved concubine of Henry II. was the Daughter of the Lord Clifford, whom to keep safe from the envy of Queen Eleanor, Henry placed in a Labyrinth, which he built for her in Woodstock, with such windings and turnings, that none could come at her retiring room, save the King, or whom he instructed. Howbeit the jealous eye of Queen Eleanor found her out by a clew of silk, which Rosamond let fall as she sate to take the air. For she suddenly fleeing to escape being seen, the end of the silk fastened to her foot, and the clew still unwinding, which the Queen followed till she had found the lovely Rosamond, whom she so dealt with (giving her poison) that she ended her days, whose body was buried at Godstow, with this Epitaph upon her tomb :

*Hic jacet in Tumba Rosa mundi, non Rosa munda,
Non redolet, sed olet, quæ redolere solet."*

This is the popular story of the fate of this celebrated beauty ; but the more credible account is, that she became sincerely religious, and died in a Convent.—Henry had by her two sons, William and Jeffrey : the latter was Archbishop of York.

Rosamond had the character of amiability, and a most charitable disposition. She was considerably better informed than her contemporaries in general, and to her, it is said, Henry was indebted for the zeal he manifested in the reformation of abuses among the clergy, and in the administration of public justice.

JANE SHORE (says Wanley) concubine to King Edward the Fourth, and afterwards to the Lord Chailin Hastings, by the commandment of King Edward the Third to the Bishop of London, was put to her penance, going before the cross in procession on Sunday, with a taper in her hand; in which she with countenance and pace demure, so womanly, and she was out of all array, except her petticoat, yet she so fair and lovely, namely while the women of the people cast a comely red in her cheeks, the great shame won her much praise, amongst those were more amorous of her body, than regardful of her soul. Many also that hated her manner of life were glad to see her punished, yet they more pitied her penance, than rejoiced therein. She lived till she was old, lean and withered, nothing left but shriveled and hard bone; and in such poverty, that she was strained to beg of many, who but for her had lost all their time."

LLEUSI LLWYD, or LUCY LLOYD, the most ancient and greatest beauty of Gwynedd,* the celebrated county of North Wales, lived at Penal, a village, pleasantly situated on an extensive plain, open to the sea at Amlwch, Merionethshire. Her melancholy and untimely death, though highly honourable to her feelings, can be read without commiseration. She was before long solicited by Llywelyn Goch ab Meriog, Ken of Naenog, a native bard, who received in return her most tender affections. But in an evil hour her father, seeing the match, taking advantage of her lover's absence from South Wales, tried to break off the attachment with that view, he told her that Llywelyn had died, and had married another. The shock overpowered her: she fell down and instantly expired. Llywelyn, returning a day or two afterwards, hastened to the body loved of his heart: but the sudden surprise of finding her laid in her coffin so affected his senses, that he fell prostrate on the floor. Recovering, however,

* North Wales formerly so called.

subsequently composed an elegy, in which are pourtrayed, with the feeling of an injured man and an agonized mind, the character of the most excellent of woman-kind. A recumbent monument of this lady is now in Northop church, in Flintshire; and by the inscription it appears that she died in 1402.

CHARLOTTE CORDEY, an extraordinary young woman, was born of a good family near Sez in Normandy in 1768, and lived chiefly at Caen, where she was greatly admired for her beauty and spirit. She had a lover named Belsunce, a major in the army, who being massacred by the soldiers, his fate animated Charlotte with sentiments of vengeance against Marat, whom she regarded as the oppressor of her country. She hastened to Paris, and on being introduced to his presence, while he was reading a paper she had given to him, stabbed him to the heart with a dagger, July 12, 1793. Far from attempting to escape, she made no resistance, but when brought before the revolutionary tribunal, acknowledged the deed, and justified it by asserting that it was a duty she owed to her country and mankind to rid the world of a monster whose sanguinary doctrines were framed to involve the country in anarchy and civil war, and asserted her right to put Marat to death as a convict already condemned by the public opinion. She trusted that her example would inspire the people with that energy which had been at all times the distinguished characteristic of republicans; and which she defined to be that devotedness to our country which renders life of little comparative estimation.

Her deportment during the trial was modest and dignified. It is difficult to conceive the kind of heroism which she displayed in the way to execution. She excited in this interesting situation a very strong and singular passion in a young man of the name of Adam Lux, a commissary from Mayence. He accidentally crossed the street as she was passing on her way to execution, and became instantly enamoured, not of her only, but, what was more extraordinary, of the guillotine. He published a few days after a pamphlet,

in which he proposed raising a statue to her honour, and inscribing on the pedestal "Greater than Brutus," and invoked her shade wandering through Elysium with those glorious personages who had devoted themselves for their country. He was sent to the prison of Laforce, where he talked of nothing but of Charlotte Corday and the guillotine ; which, since she had perished, appeared to him transformed into an altar, on which he would consider it as a privilege to be sacrificed, and was only solicitous to receive the stroke of death from the identical instrument by which she had suffered. A few weeks after his imprisonment he was executed as a counter-revolutionist.

Charlotte ascended the scaffold with undaunted firmness, and, knowing that she had only to die, was resolved to die with dignity. She had learned from her jailor the mode of punishment, but was not instructed in the detail ; and, when the executioner attempted to tie her feet to the plank, she resisted, from an apprehension that he had been ordered to insult her ; but on his explaining himself she submitted with a smile. When he took off her handkerchief, the moment before she bent under the fatal stroke, she blushed deeply ; and her head, which was held up to the multitude the moment after, exhibited this last impression of offended modesty.

If France, during the unrelenting tyranny of Robespierre, exhibited unexampled crimes, it was also the scene of extraordinary virtue ; of the most affecting instances of magnanimity and kindness. Of this nature was the conduct of a young man, who, being a prisoner with his brother, happened to be present when the names of the victims were called over, who were summoned to appear the next day before the sanguinary tribunal. The young man found the name of his brother, who at that moment was absent, upon the fatal list. He paused only an instant to reflect, that the life of a father of a large family was of more value than his own : he answered the call, surrendered himself to the officer, and was executed in his brother's stead. A father made the same sacrifice for his son ;

for the tribunal was so negligent of forms, that it was not difficult to deceive its vigilance.

To the list of admirable Beauties, what numbers might be added. Every Kingdom, Province, City, Town, Village, and Hamlet is enlivened by their presence. Barren indeed must be the spot which does not possess a Beauty.

Women are Angels in a mortal mould :
 They charm---are lovely---witness young or old :
 Trust not the man whom Beauty never mov'd,
 Nor court his love whom woman never lov'd.

MOTTERSHEAD.

INDIVIDUALS OF GIGANTIC STATURE.

(*The Editor and Various Authorities.*)

THE celebrated Wanley observes, in his Wonders of the Little World, "Giants, like the Pyramids of Egypt, are rather for ostentation than use, and are remembered in history not for any accomplishment of mind, but only for the magnitude of their bodies."—That a race of Giants never existed, we have before declared our opinion. In all the accounts of Giants which have been handed down to us by authorities not subject to doubt, we have no living instance of any individual who attained above ten feet ; we may, therefore, safely conclude this stature to be the *ne plus ultra* of human growth.

MAXIMINIUS the emperor was eight feet and a half in height : he was a Thracian, barbarous, cruel and hated of all men : he used the bracelet or armlet of his wife as a ring for his thumb, and his shoe was longer by a foot than that of another man.

WALTER PARSONS, born in Staffordshire, was first apprenticed to a smith ; when he grew so tall, that a hole was made for him in the ground, to stand therein up to

the knees, so as to make him adequate with his fellow-workmen; he afterward was porter to King James; because gates being generally higher than the rest of the building, it was proper that the porter should be taller than other persons. He was proportionable in all parts and had strength equal to his height, valour equal to his strength, and good temper equal to his valour; so that he disdained to do an injury to any single person: he would take two of the tallest yeomen of the guard in his arms at once, and order them as he pleased. He was seven feet four inches in height.

WILLIAM EVANS was born in Monmouthshire, and may justly be counted the giant of the age for his stature, being full two yards and a half in height; he was porter to King Charles the First, succeeding Walter Parsons in his place, and exceeding him two inches in stature; but far beneath him in equal proportion of body; for he was not only knock-kneed and splay-footed, but also halted a little; yet he made a shift to dance in an anti-mask at court, where he drew little Jeffery, the King's Dwarf, out of his pocket, to the no small wonder and laughter of the beholders.

JOHN MIDDLETON, Child of Hale, was born A. D. 1578, and buried in Hale Church-yard, 1638; his grave-stone is still to be seen. He was of a prodigious size. Sir Gilbert Ireland, Knight, about 1617, took him up to the court of James I., where he wrestled with the King's wrestler, and put out his thumb; by which awkwardness he disoblged the courtiers, and was sent back, the King giving him, as it was said £20. He returned by Brazenose College, Oxford, which was full of Lancashire students, and where his picture was taken, and now exists. A likeness of this English giant is also preserved at High Leigh, and one at Hale. His size is thus mentioned in Plott's History of Staffordshire:—'John Middleton, commonly called the Child of Hale, in Lancashire: his hand, from the *corpus* to the end of the middle finger, was 17 inches long, his palm, 8½ inches broad, and his whole height 9 feet 3 inches,—wanting but 6 inches of the height of

Goliath, if that in Brazenose College Library, drawn at full length, as it is said in his just proportions, be a true picture of him.'

"On comparing these dimensions with the picture now at Hale, they were found to be an exact admeasurement. Some years ago, when the late Mr. Bushell was parish clerk and schoolmaster, the thigh bones, or *os femoris*, were taken up from the earth, and were observed to reach from the hip of a man of common size to his foot. There was only one place in which he could stand upright in the cottage which he inhabited at Hale. The cottage now remains; and his bed-posts, of a very uncommon size, were very lately to be seen. A descendant of his, *Charles Chadwick*, was living in 1804, and was above six feet high."

PATRICK O'BRIEN.—The most remarkable instance of extraordinary stature in the present age was exhibited in the person of Patrick Cotter, commonly called Patrick O'Brien, and still more generally known by the appellation of the Irish Giant. He was born in the year 1761, in the county of Kinsale, in Ireland, of obscure parents, who were people of middling stature. He was brought up to the trade of a bricklayer. His stature increased till he arrived at the age of twenty-five, when his growth somewhat abated, but he continued growing after that period, till he attained the height of eight feet seven inches. He was at the same time proportionably lusty. His hand, from the commencement of the palm to the extremity of the middle finger, measured twelve inches, and his shoe was seventeen inches long. He could not, however, be denominated a well-made man; for though his limbs were not strikingly disproportioned, his figure wanted that general symmetry which a man of ordinary dimensions more commonly possesses.

During the twenty-five years that Mr. O'Brien exhibited himself, he was to be seen at different periods in the metropolis, and for four or five successive Bartholomew Fairs at Smithfield. At such times he used frequently to walk about the streets for air and exercise, at two or three o'clock in the morning. In one of

these nocturnal excursions, he was observed accompanied by two persons of common size, on whose shoulders he supported himself in the same manner as we sometimes see a well-grown man resting his hands on the shoulders of children ten or twelve years of age.

The following anecdote is related on the authority of those with whom he was most familiar. Being on a journey in his own carriage, he was one day stopped by a highwayman, on which he put his head forward to discover the cause that interrupted his progress. The highwayman, at the sight of so prodigious a figure was struck with such a panic, that he clapped spurs to his horse, and made a precipitate retreat. It should be observed, that the vehicle in which he travelled was of a peculiar construction, having a kind of box sunk to a considerable depth below the bottom of the vehicle, to admit his legs and feet.

In 1804, having realized an independence sufficient to keep a carriage, and to secure the conveniences of life, he declined the public exhibition of his person, which was always extremely irksome to his feelings. During this interval he resided, we believe, entirely at Bristol, where, in September, 1806, he fell a sacrifice to a disease of the lungs, combined with an affection of the liver, in the 46th year of his age. He expired without the smallest apparent pain or agony. The lead coffin in which his body was enclosed measured nine feet two inches, and the wooden case four inches more. To prevent any attempt to disturb his remains, of which he had the greatest horror, his grave was sunk to the depth of twelve feet in the solid rock, and such precautions were taken as effectually to render abortive either violence or stratagem.

DWARFS.

(Various Authorities.)

THE most ancient dwarfs of which mention is made are the pygmies; but these people so famous for their battles with the storks, may have never existed; at least, in searching after all the parts where they have been placed, no vestige is found of them; whence it is very probable that this pretended nation is indebted for its origin only to some foreign name, ill interpreted by the Greeks, as we have several examples of such mistakes. It is, however, certain that Homer is the first who spoke of them in his Iliad, comparing the Trojans attacking the Greeks in the absence of Achilles, to storks falling impetuously on the pygmies. But Homer wanted a comparison that might make an agreeable picture, and not to discuss a point of history. It would be laying too great a restraint on the imagination of a poet, to subject him to historical exactness, when we only require from him fire and vivacity. Let us therefore give up to him the nation of the Pygmies, and examine what more serious authors have said of Dwarfs; still we shall here find enough of the fabulous: witness the dwarf cited by Nicephorus, which was seen at the court of Constantine, and was not bigger than a partridge; the historian on this occasion might have had a somewhat poetical imagination. The Romans, especially under the first emperors, placed dwarfs among the objects of their luxury and ostentation. Augustus had one whose statue it is pretended he had ordered to be made, and he so little spared the expense, that the apples of the eyes were represented by precious stones; this dwarf, as Suetonius relates, was less than two feet in height, weighed seventeen pounds, and had a very strong voice. This statue, formerly in the cabinet of the king of France, showed that Augustus was not so nice in this affair, as the statue represented a rickety subject, ill-proportioned, and with nothing of that air, of a little adolescent, which dwarfs usually have. He might be supposed to be about thirty years old.

Tiberius admitted a dwarf to his table, and indulged him in the boldest questions, which the dwarf taking the

advantage of, hastened the punishment of a state criminal. Mark Antony had one below two feet, whom, by way of irony, he had called Sisyphus. Domitian had assembled such a number of dwarfs that he formed them into a little troop of Gladiators.

Not only the Emperors entertained dwarfs, but the princesses and even considerable ladies kept some. History has preserved to us the name of Conopsea, the dwarf of the princess Julia, daughter of Augustus, who was two feet nine inches high; and this taste remained till the reign of Alexander Severus, but that prince having expelled the male and female dwarfs from his Court, the mode of them soon ceased throughout the empire.

The passion which the Romans then had for these little men, had made them an object of commerce, and interest, an occasion of cruelty. The dealer, in order to have a greater number of Dwarfs to sell, hit upon the project of squeezing up children in boxes and bandages contrived with art. It is evident that such of these children as could survive this cruel torture, were in no respect dwarfs but deformed, and maimed men.

The desire of having dwarfs did not seem afterwards to be so considerable. Johnston, however, relates that the first wife of Joachim Frederic, Elector of Brandenburg, seemed to improve on the Roman ladies; having assembled a number of dwarfs of both sexes, in order to marry them with a view of multiplying their species, but her attempt was fruitless, and none of them left issue. Hoffman and Peter Messic cite Catherine of Medicis as having had the same taste, but with as little success, which needs excite no surprise.

M. de Buffon says "that the middle height of men being about five feet, the limits of it scarcely extend farther than to a foot under or over: a man of six feet is in fact a very tall man, and one of four feet of a very low size; Giants and Dwarfs who are above and below these terms of size are to be considered as individual and accidental varieties, and not as permanent differences which ought to produce constant races. It is, therefore, not astonishing that the marriage of the dwarfs by the Electress of Brandenburg and Catharine

of Medics should have left no issue : if any of them could have been fruitful they would have produced men of the common size."

In the year 1710, Peter, czar of Russia, celebrated a marriage of dwarfs, which was attended with great parade. Upon a certain day, which he had ordered to be proclaimed several months before, he invited the whole body of his courtiers, and all the foreign ambassadors, to be present at the marriage of a pigmy man and woman. The preparations for this wedding were not only very grand, but executed in a style of barbarous ridicule. He ordered that all the dwarf men and women, within two hundred miles, should repair to the capital; and also insisted that they should be present at the ceremony. For this purpose he supplied them with proper vehicles; but so contrived it, that one horse was seen carrying a dozen of them into the city at once, while the mob followed shouting and laughing, from behind.

Some of them were at first unwilling to obey an order which they knew to be calculated to turn them into ridicule and did not come; but he soon obliged them to obey; and as a punishment, enjoined, that they should wait upon the rest at dinner. The whole company of dwarfs amounted to about seventy, beside the bride and bridegroom, who were richly adorned, and in the extremity of the fashion. For this company in miniature every thing was suitably provided; a low table, small plates, little glasses, and, in short, every thing was so fitted, as if all things had been dwindled to their own standard. It was his great pleasure to see their gravity and their pride; the contention of the women for places, and the men for superiority. This point he attempted to adjust, by ordering, that the most diminutive should take the lead: but this bred disputes, for none would then consent to sit foremost. All this, however, being at last settled, dancing followed the dinner, and the ball was opened with a minuet by the bridegroom, whose height was exactly three feet two inches. In the end, matters were so contrived, that this little company, who met together in gloomy disgust, and with an unwillingness to be pleased, being at last familiarised to

laughter, entered into the diversion, and became extremely sprightly and entertaining.

From the various descriptions of celebrated Dwarfs we select the following :

JEFFERY HUDSON. This celebrated Dwarf was born at Oakham in Rutlandshire, in 1619, and about the age of seven or eight years, being then but eighteen inches high, was retained in the service of the Duke of Buckingham, who resided at Burleigh on the Hill. Soon after the marriage of Charles I. the king and queen being entertained at Burleigh, little Jeffery was served up at table in a cold pye, which, when cut open, presented to the astonished royal visitors the diminutive Jeffery armed cap-a-pee. This pye was purposely constructed to hold our little hero, who, when the duchess made an incision in his castle of paste, shifted his situation until sufficient room was made for his appearance. The queen expressing herself greatly pleased with his person and manners, the duchess presented him to her majesty, who afterwards kept him as her dwarf. From the age of seven years till thirty, he never grew taller; but after thirty he shot up to three feet nine inches, and there fixed.

Jeffery became a considerable part of the entertainment of the court, and Sir William Davenport wrote a poem on a battle between him and a turkey cock, which took place at Dunkirk, where a woman rescued him from the fury of his antagonist.

Before this period, little Jeffery was employed in a negociation of great importance. This was, to procure a midwife for the queen, but on his return with a lady of that profession and her majesty's dancing master, with many rich presents to the queen from her mother, Mary de Medicis, he was taken by the Dunkirkers; and besides what he was bringing for the queen, he lost to the value of two thousand five hundred pounds, that he had received in France, on his own account, from the queen's mother, and ladies of that court. This happened in the year 1630.

Jeffery lost little of his consequence with the queen

on this misfortune, but was often teased by the courtiers and domestics with the story of the turkey cock, and trifles of a similar description; his temper was by no means calculated to put up with repeated affronts, and at last being greatly provoked by Mr. Crofts, a young gentleman of family, a challenge ensued. Mr. Crofts coming to the rendezvous armed only with a squirt, the little man was so enraged, that a real duel ensued; and the appointment being on horseback with pistols, to put them more on a level, Jeffery, at the first fire, shot his antagonist dead. This happened in France, whither he had attended his mistress in the troubles.

He was afterwards taken prisoner by a Turkish rover, and sold for a slave in Barbary; but did not remain long in captivity, for at the beginning of the civil war he was made captain in the royal army; and in 1644, attended the queen again into France, where he remained till the restoration. At last, upon suspicion of his being privy to the popish plot, he was taken up in 1664, and confined in the Gate-house, Westminster, where he ended his life, at the age of 63.

NICHOLAS FENY. In the year 1746, the French Academy of Sciences gave an account of the strange history of a young child called Nicholas Feny, who, when born, was not quite nine inches long, and weighed but twelve ounces, and at the age of five was absolutely formed without having attained to a greater height than twenty-two inches: this singularity proved the child's happiness, the king of Poland, duke of Lorraine, saw and honoured him with his beneficence. From that moment Bebe, which was the name he gave him, never quitted his august benefactor, and he died in his palace.

He was carried to church on a plate overspread with the tow of flax, and a wooden shoe served him for a cradle: he never could suck his mother; his mouth was too small to take hold of the nipple, so that a goat was pitched upon to suckle him, and he had no other nurse than that animal, which on her part seemed to be very fond of him.

He had the small-pox at six months old, and the goat's milk was at the same time his only nourishment

and his only remedy. At the age of eighteen months he began to speak; at two years he walked almost without help, and it was then that his first shoes which were eighteen lines long, were made.

The coarse food of the villagers of Vosges, such as pulse, bacon and potatoes, was that of his infancy, till the age of six years, and during that time he had some very bad fits of sickness, out of which he fortunately recovered.

Till the age of fifteen Bebe had his organs free, and his whole diminutive figure very exactly and agreeably proportioned: he was then twenty-nine inches high, his weak and frail body, however, soon became enervated, and his strength exhausted, on which his back bone was incurvated, his head sunk forward, his legs were enfeebled; one shoulder blade was dislocated, his nose grew large, and losing his cheerfulness, he became valedudinarian; but in the four following years he grew four inches taller. He died on the 9th of June 1764, aged nearly twenty three, at which time he was thirty-three inches in height.

COUNT BORULASKI, a Polish gentleman, was born 1739. His father and mother were much beneath the middle size; they had six children, the eldest of whom measured only 34 inches, and was well made. The second, the person in question, measured only 28 inches, at twenty-two years of age, three younger brothers, who succeeded him a year's distance from one another, were each five feet six inches; the sixth child was a female, but she was well made, her face was pretty, and shewed a great deal of acuteness.

The resemblance between Bebe and Borulaski, consisted only in smallness of size, the latter was more favourably created by nature, he enjoyed good health, was active and nimble, bore fatigue, and with ease raised weights which seemed very considerable for his stature.

But what distinguished him more happily from Bebe was that he possessed all the strength and graces of wit, that his memory was good, and his judgment very sound. He read and wrote well, was acquainted with

arithmetic, the German and French languages, and spoke with facility; he was ingenious in whatever he undertook, smart in his repartees, and just in his reasoning. In short, Count Borulaski may be considered, as a complete man, though very little; Bebe as a defective man.

In modern times Dwarfs innumerable have been exhibited for the gratification and amusement of the curious. Within these last 20 years we recollect Lady Morgan, honoured by his late Majesty with that title; Mr. Simon Paap, the Little Dutchman; and the Sicilian Girl, who lately died in London: but as their histories are void of incident, and can afford no amusement to our readers, we therefore leave them to their little fame.

INSTANCES OF HUMAN LONGEVITY IN EUROPE.

(Various Authorities.)

FOR observations and suggestions respecting Human Longevity, the reader is referred to page 366 of the Museum Asianum. In our selections of instances of European extraordinaries in this department of our Volume, none will be introduced who had not at the time of their dissolution attained 150 years.

LYWARCH HEN.

150 YEARS—A. D. 500.

LYWARCH HEN was a celebrated Welsh bard, contemporary with king Arthur. Many of his works are preserved, which are inserted in the Welsh Archæology; Mr. Owen printed them, with a literal translation, in a volume under the title of the Heroic Elegies and other pieces of Llywarch Hen. His patrimony was in the North of England; he being supposed to have been a chief of some part of the ancient Cumbria. He bore a distinguished part in defending his

country against the growing power of the Saxons; and he survived to lament the loss of twenty-four sons who fell in the same cause. After a long period of turbulence he sought repose under the protection of Cyddyllan, a prince of a part of Powys; and according to ancient tradition he died in a solitary cell, in the parish of Llanvor near Bala, at the extreme age of about one hundred and fifty years. A. D. 500.

THOMAS CARN.

207 YEARS.—A. D. 1588.

THE most remarkable instance of longevity which we meet with in British history is that of Thomas Carn, who, according to the parish register of St. Leonard, Shoreditch, died 28th January, 1588, at the astonishing age of two hundred and seven years. He was born in the reign of Richard the Second, anno 1381, and lived in the reigns of twelve kings and queens, namely, Richard II. Henry IV. V. and VI. Edward IV. and V. Richard III. Henry VII. and VIII. Edward VI. Mary, and Elizabeth. The veracity of the above may be readily observed by any person who chooses to consult the above mentioned register.

In the Russian Petersburg Gazette, published in the beginning of 1812, the phenomenon is recorded of one old man, in the diocese of Ekaterinoslaw, having attained to the age of between two hundred and two hundred and five.

THOMAS PARR,

152 YEARS.—A. D. 1635.

THOMAS PARR, son of John Parr, was born at Winnington, in the parish of Alberbury, in Shropshire, in the reign of King Edward the Fourth, anno 1488. When eighty years old he married his first wife Jane, and in the space of thirty-two years he had but two children by her, both of them short lived; the one lived but a month, the other only a few years. Being aged an hundred and twenty, he became enamoured of Katharine Milton, whom he married, and had children

by her. Two months before his death he was brought, by Thomas Earl of Arundel, to Westminster; where he slept away most of his time, and is thus characterised by an eye-witness:

From head to heel his body had all over
A quick-set, thick-set, nat'ral hairy cover.

Change of air and diet, better in itself, but worse for him, with the trouble of many visitants, or spectators rather, are conceived to have accelerated his death, which happened at Westminster, November the 15th, 1632, aged one hundred and fifty-two years.

This aged man lived in ten reigns; viz. Edward the Fourth, Edward the Fifth, Richard the Third, Henry the Seventh, Henry the Eighth, Edward the Sixth, Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth, King James, and King Charles the First.

A very remarkable circumstance of this old man is, that at the age of one hundred and thirty, a prosecution was entered against him in the spiritual court for bastardy; and with such affect, that he did penance publicly in Alberbury church for the offence.

The Editor has often seen the now ruined Cottage in which Old Parr resided; it stands on the left of the road from Shrewsbury to Welshpool, 6 miles from the latter place, in the rear of the New Inn, at the foot of the Briedden Hills, and is on a clear day an interesting object to passengers by the stage coaches, &c.

THOMAS DAMME.

154 YEARS.—A. D. 1648.

THE parish registers of Church Minshull, in the county of Chester, commenced in 1561, and contain the following remarkable instance of Longevity:

"1649 Thomas Damme of Leighfon. Buried the 20th of February, being of the age of Seven-score and fourteen." The register is signed by the Rev. T. Holford, vicar; T. Kennerly and John Warburton, churchwardens.

Of the fact of the great age of this venerable Cheshire Patriarch there appears no doubt: but the history of

his long life is buried in oblivion. Perhaps no one incident in it was of sufficient importance to merit either peculiar censure or praise: still it appears remarkable that so little notice has been taken of this life gifted individual. Why has he not been ranked with Old Parr, and Old Jenkins, in the records of British Longevity?
—*Barros.*

HENRY JENKINS.

169 YEARS.—A. D. 1670.

HENRY JENKINS was born at Bolton-upon-Swale, Yorkshire, in 1500, and followed the employment of fishing for about one hundred and forty years. When only eleven or twelve years old, he was sent to North-allerton, in the North Riding of that county, with a horse-load of arrows, for the purpose of their being used in the battle of Flodden-field,* with which a bigger boy (all the men being employed in getting-in the harvest) went forward to the army, under the Earl of Surrey; King Henry VIII. being at Tournay. When he was more than one hundred years old, he used to swim across the river, with the greatest ease, and without catching cold.

Nothing can more clearly prove the age of this man than the above account, for James the Fourth entered England on the 24th of August, 1513: so that, if Jenkins was turned of twelve at that time, he must have been born about the year 1500, and, dying in 1670, he was at least one hundred and sixty-nine years of age.

When he was about one hundred and sixty years old, being unable to follow his original employment as a fisherman, he used to bind sheaves of corn for the farmers, and retained his sight and hearing to the last.

What a multitude, of events, says an ingenious au-

* The battle of Flodden, between the English and Scots, was fought on the 9th of September, 1513, when the Scottish king, together with most of his nobility, were slain.

thor, have crowded into the period of this man's life! He was born when the Roman Catholic religion was established by law; he saw the supremacy of the pope overturned; the dissolution of monasteries; Popery established again; and at last the Protestant religion securely fixed on a rock of adamant. In his time the invincible Armada was destroyed; the republic of Holland formed; three Queens beheaded, Ann Boleyn, Catharine Howard, and Mary Queen of Scots; a King of Spain seated upon the throne of England; a King of Scotland crowned King of England at Westminster; and his son beheaded before his own palace, his family being proscribed as traitors; and, last of all, the great fire in London, which happened in 1666, toward the close of his wonderful life.

Jenkins could neither read nor write. He died at Ellerton-upon-Swale, December 8, 1670, and was buried in Bolton Church yard, near Catterick and Richmond, in Yorkshire; where a small pillar was erected in the church to his memory, on which is inscribed a suitable Epitaph, composed by Dr. Thomas Chapman, master of Magdalen College, Cambridge, from 1746 to 1760.

PETER CZARTAN.

184 YEARS.—A. D. 1724.

PPETER CZARTAN, by religion a Greek, who was born in the year 1539, and died on the 5th of January, 1724, at Rofrosh, a village four miles from Temeswaer, on the road to Karansebes, Hungary: he had lived, therefore, one hundred and eighty-four years. When the Turks took Temeswaer from the Christians, he was employed in keeping his father's cattle. A few days before his death, he had walked, supported by a stick, to the post house at Rofrosh, to ask alms from the passengers. His eyes were exceedingly red, but he still enjoyed a little sight; the hair of his head and beard were greenish white, like mouldy bread, and some of his teeth were still remaining. His son, who was ninety-seven, declared, that his father had formerly been a head taller; that he married at a great age for

the third time; and that himself was born in this marriage. He was accustomed, according to the principles of his religion, to observe the fast days with great strictness, to use no other food than milk, a kind of cakes called by the Hungarians *kollatschen*, and to drink of the brandy made in the country. He had children, descendants in the fifth generation, with whom he sometimes sported, carrying them in his arms. His son, though ninety-seven, was still hale and lively. Field-marshal Count von Wallis, Governor of Temeswaer, hearing that this old man was sick, caused a likeness of him to be taken, which was scarcely finished when he died. The above account is extracted from a letter written to the States-General of the United Netherlands, by their Envoy, Hamelbraning, at Vienna, and dated January 29, 1724.

JOHN ROVIN, 172.—HIS WIFE, 164.

A. D. 1741.

JOHN ROVIN and his Wife, of the Bannat of Temeswaer, in Hungary, both died the same year, in the one hundred and forty-eighth year of their marriage, leaving two sons and two daughters, besides many grandchildren. Their youngest son was one hundred and sixteen years of age.

Mr. Taylor in his *Annals of Health*, page 54, has the following brief notices:

"The following inscription was copied from a tombstone in Cachen church-yard, near Cardiff, Glamorgan-shire: "Heare lieth the body of WILLIAM EDWARDS, of the Cairey, who departed this life the 24th of February, Anno Domini 1668, anno ætatis suæ one hundred and sixty-eight."

JOSEPH SURREINGTON, who was born in the year 1637, died in 1797, at the astonishing age of one hundred and sixty years.

According to a list published officially in Russia, of

INSTANCES OF LONGEVITY. 457

the number of deaths in 1815, there were 1068 instances of people who died at upwards of one hundred years of age; namely,

613	persons above 100 years old.
209 105
123 110
72 115
31 120
13 125
6 130
1 155

The oldest person ever seen and conversed with by the Editor, was a female, whose name he does not now recollect, and who lately died at or near Witstantow, in the County of Salop. At the period of his visit she was one hundred and twelve years old; had all her faculties very perfect, and was busily engaged in mending a black stuff quilt which, like herself, had seen better days:

We have a most remarkable living instance of Shropshire longevity in old Betty Gardner, now residing near Montgomery. She is one hundred and upwards, possessing the entire use of all her faculties, and travels on foot from her own home once a week to Shrewsbury, distant 20 miles, and carries back a basket of sundry articles purchased at the market for herself and surrounding neighbours. According to human probability she may live to the years of Old Parr. The Editor is frequently amused by her sprightliness and vivacity.

CONCLUDING HINTS, REFLECTIONS, AND
OBSERVATIONS.

"Who that from Alpine heights his lab'ring eye
Shoots round the wide horizon to survey
Where Nile or Ganges rolls his wasteful flood,
Through empires vast and continents of sand,
Will turn his gaze, to mark the windings
Of a scanty rill that murmurs at his feet."

Pleasures of Imagination.

THE just and noble sentiment of the poet conveyed in the preceding lines in some degree influenced the Editor while selecting articles for the volume he has just concluded, and led him in many instances to prefer descriptions of Antiquities and Beauties by others, to those he had himself prepared. He cannot, however, finally conclude without briefly adverting to a few places and objects seen and visited by him.

A former and recent trip* to the Isle of Man have fixed in his mind a peculiar esteem for

"That happy spot that was of old ordained
To be the seat of modern bliss—where peace
For ever dwells, and fair prosperity
Enthroned sits smiling on her golden shores."

From history it appears that this island was once the seat of learning, as the Princes of Scotland sent hither their sons for education. The concurrent testimony of Saxons, Scots, and Irish writers shew it was at one period famous for wise and virtuous prelates. It is now no less celebrated for the kindness and hospitality of its inhabitants.

Among the interesting antiquities of the island, are two Danish pillars or crosses, one in front of the churchyard of Kirk Michael, and the other in the churchyard of Kirk Braddan; the inscriptions are in Runic characters, and have been variously, and very probably, erroneously translated. The church of Kirk Braddan is most delightfully situated in a sweet valley, 2 miles from

* See Hulbert's *Stranger's Friend*, including a Trip to the Isle of Man and a Tour round the Island.

Douglas, and being entirely surrounded by lofty flourishing trees seems to invite to retirement and devotion.

There are many delightful views in the interior of the island; that from the summit of Snafield we have noticed, (page 302.) From an eminence a little above Fort St. Ann, the seat of the Honourable Deemster Christian, there is a marine prospect scarcely surpassed in the British Empire. The whole line of road from Kirk Michael to Peel is rich with views marine and inland. As you approach the latter place, Peel Castle* like some once formidable giant presents its venerable front to the ocean, and bids defiance to the waves which beat against its walls, or roll in the caverns beneath its foundations.

A short tour into Wales afforded considerable gratification to the Editor; the prospect of the rich and extensive vale of Clwyd from the summit of Ruthin Church steeple inspired him with feelings of admiration and delight, and that from the summit of the Berwyn mountains with surprise and astonishment. Recollections of the romantic vale of Llangollen,† the soft scenery of

* The roofless cathedral of St. Germain's, which stands a romantic ruin within the walls of Peel Castle, is an asylum for the remains of strangers who die in the island, unfortunate individuals, who have been shipwrecked, &c. From the inscriptions on the grave stones, the Editor copied the following, which will be read with interest by his Shrewsbury friends.

To the Memory of
THOMAS CARTWRIGHT, ESQUIRE,
Surgeon,

Nephew to THOMAS JEFF POWYS, Esq.
Of Berwick House, near Shrewsbury,
Who departed this Life on the 10th day of September,
1820,

In the 53rd Year of his Age.

† Llangollen Bridge and Overton Churchyard are generally ranked among the wonders of Wales.

the vale of Overton, the beauty and grandeur of Wrexham Church, this moment present to his mind the most pleasurable sensations.

On a late visit to Silbury† Hill and the neighbouring druidical temples at Avebury (see page 95) even the charming City of Palaces (Bath) sunk into levity, when compared with those venerable monuments of the Fathers of Britain.

During another delightful excursion, a few weeks ago, the Editor visited the spirited and greatly improving town of Kidderminster, celebrated for its extensive and flourishing carpet manufactories, where he was supremely delighted with a sight of St. George's Chapel recently erected, partly by grant from Parliament and partly by a subscription of £2000. The style of this elegant building is pure Gothic—

“ Whose nameless charms the Dorian claims efface,
Corinthian splendour and Ionian grace.”

The interior is the most convenient which taste and ingenuity could devise. The altar-piece, representing our Lord taken down from the cross, is the entire work of the loom; the effect of which surpasses all possible conception, and is very little inferior to Miss Linwood's needlework, or a masterly oil painting.

The views in the neighbourhood of Kidderminster are pleasant, but greatly inferior to those in the vicinity of Bewdley. From Warshill the scene is only bounded by the human vision. A prospect from Summer House, the present residence of the Editor's excellent and amiable friend, Thomas Brookes, Esq. commands a complete view of the town of Bewdley, the hanging rocks and woods of Winterdyne, the windings of the river Severn, and a rich diversified vale of seemingly endless extent.

Between Bewdley, Worcestershire, and Bridgnorth, Shropshire, a ride of 15 miles, are numerous extensive

† In a few copies of this volume by a mistake of the printer and oversight of the corrector “Tilbury” is used for Silbury.

and lovely landscapes. The little village of Quatford, or rather the works and residence of John Smalman, Esq. is one of the most interesting spots in the county of Salop. The labour bestowed, the ingenuity and taste displayed, by its intelligent and enlightened proprietor, have given to a barren rock, loveliness and fertility.

With raptures the Editor could dwell on the varied scenery of Hawkestone Park, where nature seems to have assembled all her beauties; or on the lively and boundless view from Halton Hill, in the county of Chester—a prospect embracing every thing sublime and magnificent; hills, dales, rocks, woods, ruins, canals, rivers, ships, the temples of the Creator, the seats of opulence, and the cottages of content, all meet the eye to complete this scene of magic. Here we enjoy in full perfection

“The boundless stores
Of charms which nature to her vot'ries yields;
The warbling woodlands, the resounding shores,
The pomp of groves, and garniture of fields,
All that the genial ray of morning gilds,
And all that echoes to the song of even;
All that the mountain's sheltering bosom yields,
And all the gay magnificence of Heaven.”

In contemplating prospects like these we have just described, where nature appears in her full dress of loveliness and delight, the soul naturally expands herself, and visions of fancy crowd upon her, till from reviewing scenes inanimate she turns to living and moral prospects—she contemplates Europe as the intellectual garden of the world—she marks the rapid stride of intellect, the march of education, the swelling increase of trade and commerce, the happy influence of religion on all ranks, particularly in Britain, and its cheering progress in the various countries forming portions of this quarter of the globe—these blessings she ascribes to the goodness and never failing mercy of a gracious Providence in restoring and preserving PEACE, and which according to all human prospect and probability will descend to periods beyond the present age.—*Amen.*

The same youthful poet to whom the Editor was indebted for “The Course of Light” in the conclusion of of the Museum Americanum, has just laid before him

as in some degree according with the above sentiments, the following meditative lines, which he entitled—

THE TRIUMPH OF PEACE.

Fair was the smile of evening's setting beam,
And still the breeze that swept Sabrina's stream;
When musing slow, I sought that dearest shade,*
For Fancy, Love, and Contemplation made;
Where the tall limes in graceful order spread,
Entwine their arching branches overhead;
While every lowering avenue that fades
In solemn distance, or in sombre shades,
As through its opening boughs the day-beams play
And chequer feebly all the pensive way;
Seems the still aisle of some monastic fanes
Where dim reveal'd through many a tinted pane,
The vestarous daylight trembles to explore
And falls uncertain on the marble floor!
Charm'd by the spell of deep and peaceful thought,
With every dear associate fraught;
And sadly pondering o'er the bitter strife,
That plants with grief the path of human life;
A day dream gently o'er my spirit stole;—
And then methought the world from pole to pole
Before me lay—its mountains, streams, and bowers,
Its cities, temples, castles, pomps, and powers;
Where Asia groans beneath the treble pain,
Of ignorance, indolence, and thralldom's chain;
Where's Lybia's sterile rocks and seas of sand
Round Tribes more vile and cultureless expand:
Where o'er the western tide Columbia's star
Shines like a radiant Eden bright and far:
And o'er them all where Eumora's narrow clime
Rich with the spoils of nations and of time;
The fairest, loveliest, and sublimest, rears
Her awful visage, crown'd with length of years;
All lay outspread—methought a gloomy cloud
Hung o'er the World, and thunders swift and loud,

* Shrewsbury Quarry, celebrated all over England as a lovely shady walk.

Charged with red fatal lightnings rent the sky,
 And swept the busy Nations blasted by ;
 Cities were shaken—though on mountains based,
 And fiery winds laid Nature's garden waste,
 Temples in burning wreck, o'er field and flood
 Glared fearful—and the seas seemed gorg'd with blood !
 The mothers' screams rang doleful through the air,
 And all the earth shrunk blackening with despair !

I heard the clang of arms—'twas horrid War,
 That shot those bolts destructive fast and far ;
 Whose hell-ignited torch was fiercely hurld,
 To spread flame, death, and ruin o'er the world !
 'Twas maddening War ! whose sable flag on high
 Hung darkening heaven and deadening every eye ;
 Had bid calm Hope and radiant Love depart,
 And rear'd his hideous throne in every heart !

But Heaven in pity to the widow's groan
 Swift sent the angels, Peace and Mercy down :
 The Stygian clouds were pierced by sudden light,
 And shrunk in shame away, and mute affright ;
 The thunders ceas'd ; the light-bolts dart no more—
 The fiery tempest slumbers on the shore ;
 O'er azure waves the ships of commerce sweep
 And Mercy's banner shines along the deep ;
 The joyous lands resume their fruitful smile,
 The cities rise with many a beauteous pile
 Adorn'd—and more by piety and truth ;
 The World seem'd wak'd to loveliness and youth !
 While o'er the skies a joyful psalm ran
 War is destroy'd, and Peace resides with man !
 Mercy and Truth and Science march sublime,
 Their groves shall bless the most inclement clime ;
 The warrior sheathes his sword to bear the cross,
 And counts his glory in its earthly loss ;
 The castles now are rung with hymns of praise,
 The halls of death become the thrones of grace ;
 Monarchs no more in sanguine contests vie,
 Nor boast the murderous wreaths of victory ;
 Their conqu'ring zeal is Shiloh's march of fame,
 Their added realms—his far expanding claim ;
 Their proudest robe, exalted wisdom's dress,
 Their brightest crown, superior righteousness !

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